



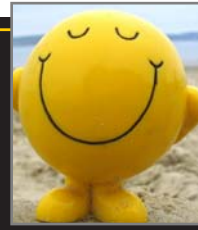
THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
**TODAY'S
EDITION**

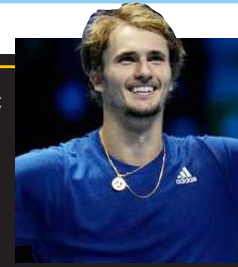
➤ Did you know used noodles and biscuit packets can be utilised in many interesting ways?

PAGE 2


➤ From friendship to inner beauty, peace of mind to contentment, we tell you how money can't buy happiness

PAGE 3


➤ Zverev denies Djokovic another chance to earn a big title

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021



Children present charter of demands to MPs for safe reopening of schools



A group of children presented a charter of demands to parliamentarians on Saturday on the occasion of **WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY** for reopening schools safely and bridging the digital divide. The Parliamentarians' Group for Children (PGC) convened a

With safe reopening of schools across the country after more than a year, the children's charter of demands focuses attention on safe school reopening as well as equitable access to online learning, reducing the size of the syllabus and prioritising vaccination for children.

virtual 'Children's Parliament' in the presence of 35 Members of Parliament. Representing 1,500 children from 16 states, 14 children shared their experiences in learning loss, and the challenges they faced because of prolonged school closure through the pandemic. Children and young people presented a nine-point charter of demands to the parliamentarians, urging them to take actions to support their learning recovery.

According to UNICEF's rapid assessment conducted in six states in 2020 – Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh – 76% of parents of children in the 5-13 years age group, and 80% of adolescents aged between 14 and 18, reported less learning compared to when they were in school

BOOK

Donald Trump's photo-book 'Our Journey Together' set to launch next month



Donald Trump's first post-White House book will be, like so much else about him—a departure from other former presidents. Trump is publishing a hardcover collection of hundreds of photographs from his administration, featuring his own captions, some handwritten. 'Our Journey Together' is scheduled for December 7.

'Our Journey Together' features unforgettable moments from our time in Washington: building the Southern Border Wall; cutting America's taxes; confirming almost 300 federal judges and 3 Supreme Court justices; rebuilding our military; creating Space Force; dealing with Kim Jong-Un, President Xi, President Putin, and many other world leaders, the former president said in a statement

THE LA NINA EFFECT BRACE FOR A SEVERE WINTER THIS YEAR

With chill setting in most parts of the country, experts have warned of a severe winter this year. While climate change has been playing havoc unleashing extreme weather events, the prediction of temperatures likely to fall to as low as three degrees Celsius in northern parts of the country in January and February is due to the La Niña effect, they add.



WHAT IS LA NIÑA

La Nina is the periodic cooling of parts of the Pacific, affecting weather patterns worldwide. When weather conditions are normal in the Pacific Ocean, the winds guiding the ocean currents, or trade winds, blow west along the equator. This takes the warm water from South America towards Asia. To replace that warm water, cold water rises from the depths of the Ocean.

HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM EL NINO

El Niño and La Nina are two opposing climate patterns that break the normal weather conditions. El Nino weakens the trade winds, pushing the warmer currents back east, toward the west coast of the Americas. This leads to an above-normal ocean temperature

in a large area along the equator. The heat from the ocean goes out into the atmosphere, leading to warmer air temperatures in the Pacific and subsequently, to warmer global air temperatures. La Niña creates an opposite climate pattern. The heat from the ocean 'comes in' into the atmosphere, leading to colder air temperatures in the Pacific and consequently colder global air temperatures.

HOW LA NINA WILL AFFECT INDIA

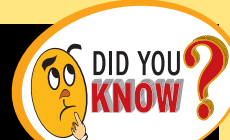
1 The latest forecast and weather observations indicate that north India is likely to shiver, with mercury dipping under three degrees Celsius this winter. The weather phenomenon has already led to unexpected heavy rains in October, causing a dip in the normal temperatures in parts of north India

2 The effects have already started showing. The Dhauladhar mountain ranges in the lesser Himalayan chain received heavy snowfall three weeks ago, sending cold winds inwards. Around the same time, there was snowfall in Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Pahalgam, Shopian and Gurez areas of the Kashmir valley. Minamarg and Drass in Ladakh also witnessed snowfall

3 La Nina and a cooler-than-normal and extended winter could also lead to a short, intense summer and heatwaves all across India before the monsoon sets in

4 Moreover, if the winter La Nina event is followed by an El Nino event, the rainfall may go down by up to 15 per cent

■ El Nino means 'a boy' and La Nina means 'a girl' in Spanish. The two events occur every two to seven years. In normal conditions, El Nino occurs more frequently than La Nina
■ Previous La Nina events had occurred during the winter of 2020-2021 and 2017-2018, and an El Nino developed in 2018-2019



SWACHH BHARAT

Indore cleanest city of India

Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the fifth time in a row in the Central government's annual cleanliness survey, the results of which were announced on Saturday.

■ The second and third positions in the 'cleanest city' category of the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2021' were secured by Surat and Vijayawada, respectively.
■ Varanasi has been the adjudged the 'cleanest Ganga town' in the survey announced by the Union housing and urban affairs ministry.
■ Chhattisgarh has been adjudged India's cleanest state.



SC JUNKS PLEA SEEKING HYBRID CBSE, ICSE EXAMS

The Supreme Court has said that the ongoing exam process cannot be suddenly made online, which may result in rescheduling the examination, as it junked a plea by a group of students seeking directions to conduct term exams for classes X and XII for the CBSE and ICSE boards via hybrid mode, rather than physical. A bench told the petitioners' counsel: "Don't mess up with the education system. Let the authorities continue their work..." The bench noted that if the court were to interfere at this stage, it may lead to practical difficulties, as the exams have already commenced.

EDUCATION

'Dynamite', BTS's 1st English-language track, crosses 1.3 bn YouTube views



'Dynamite', the music video for K-pop superband BTS, has crossed 1.3 billion views on YouTube. The video for the megahit single was released in 2020 and it reached the milestone late on Friday night.

■ It became the seven-member group's third music video to hit 1.3 billion YouTube views after 'DNA' and 'Boy with Luv'

■ BTS has a library of 35 music videos with more than 100 million views on the global music sharing site

■ 'Dynamite' is the group's first English-language song. It made BTS the first Korean act to debut at No 1 on the 'Billboard Hot 100' main singles chart in 2020 and earned the group its first Grammy nomination


MUSIC


WHEN HARRIS MADE HISTORY

US vice president Kamala Harris has made history as the first woman to be the head of state of the most powerful nation – even if it was only for 85 minutes while

President Joe Biden was incapacitated temporarily for a medical procedure. The transfer of power to vice president Harris took place on Friday at 10.10 am and reverted to Biden at 11.35 am, when he recovered from anaesthesia after a colonoscopy.

1 This was the first time in the 245-year history of the US that woman had held the presidency

2 Harris is the first woman to be the nation's vice president, a step away from the presidency. The constitutional right under the 25th amendment allows her to function as president when the head of state is incapacitated

3 During the 85 minutes Harris was acting president and the commander-in-chief of the US military, she had control of the world's biggest nuclear arsenal

DOCTOR SPEAK

STAY SAFE FROM NASAL ALLERGIES

IN THE TIME OF AIR POLLUTION

The high AQI (Air Quality Index) in north Indian cities and in other places too like Mumbai is bad news for those with allergy issues such as sinus, allergic rhinitis and hay fever (all characterised by runny nose, itchy eyes, continuous sneezing and fatigue). While respiratory ailments like asthma and bronchitis are well-known problems, allergy issues get less press but are temporarily as debilitating and troublesome as it affects daily functioning and quality of life. Check these tips by **Dr Rajeev Nangia, ENT specialist and Sinus endoscopic surgeon, Apollo Spectra Hospital, Delhi**, to help nasal and respiratory allergy affected people sail through bad air and season change days

MUST DO FOR THOSE PRONE TO ALLERGIES

- Do consult your ENT specialist doctor in the changing season if you are facing more problems than usual. They will prescribe medication for the same that is many times important to deal with the problem. Just sipping warm turmeric water cannot help beyond a point.
- Avoid visiting dusty places and molds in the house. Do clean these irritants regularly.
- Maintain a safe distance from sick people.
- Wash your hands often as viruses can live longer on door-knobs and other surfaces.
- Keep yourself well hydrated in order to keep your throat well lubricated. If you get dehydrated, then the mucus will be too thick, and the irritants will not be cleared. Instead, it tends to get stuck in the sinuses, leading to congestion and possibly infection from bacterial growth.
- Avoid stress, harsh fume-fragrances, incense sticks and heavily perfumed candles.
- Rest enough and aim for eight hours of restful sleep.
- Opt for a humidifier at home. Even going for a hot shower can help you get that much-needed relief from sinus pain.
- Keep the windows closed and avoid dust, pollen and pollution that can aggravate sinus problems.
- Stick to a well-balanced diet, and exercise on a daily basis to boost immunity and keep allergies and infections at bay.
- Steam helps relieve congestion by loosening one's mucus. Take it every day as suggested by the doctor.
- Wash your linen properly and maintain good personal hygiene.
- Change your clothes without fail after coming from outside.



If the sinus infection lasts for more than two weeks with severe headaches and swelling you should immediately approach the doctor for immediate treatment. Do not self-medicate



Avoid going out during peak polluted hours like early morning and evening. And whenever you go out, wear a mask (besides Covid-19 being still around), a mask stops allergens like particulate matter (PM) and other pollutants from entering your nose and mouth



FOODS TO EAT

There are certain foods that help in treating congestion in the nasal passage and reducing irritation induced by allergies. Try the following to stay healthy

HEALING HERBS

Garlic helps remove mucus and clears the sinuses. Ginger can help in killing fungi and bacteria and gives your immune system a much-needed boost.

PEPPER IS GOOD

Red and green peppers, whole grains, kale, parsley, and broccoli can help you manage sinus symptoms.

GO FOR VITAMINS

Vitamin A is essential to keep your mucous membranes healthy; good sources are carrots, sweet potatoes. Vitamin E, on the other hand, is helpful in preventing allergies and sinusitis. Nuts and seeds like walnuts, sunflower seeds, almonds and raisins are rich in vitamin E.

HONEY WORKS

Honey (buy good quality organic honey as commercial varieties are loaded with extra sugar) has antibacterial properties and can be helpful in killing bacteria causing allergies and infections.



HAVE PINEAPPLE

This tangy and tasty fruit is dense in antioxidants and protects the mucus membranes from damage and inflammation.



INCLUDE CITRUS FOODS

Foods rich in vitamin C like kiwi, spinach, berries and pumpkin are loaded with antioxidants and are helpful in strengthening the immune system.



Fun ways to reuse noodles & biscuit packets

Got a couple of well-lined nice packets lying around after you have used the noodles or other food items? Don't throw them. You can use this waste to make interesting things for your home. Here are some easy-to-do ideas

A BIRD FEEDER

Fold the pack inwards until it is low enough for birds to reach inside. Keep some seeds or grains in one and some fresh water in the other. Place these in the balcony or window sill.



USE AS A POT

Poke a few holes at the bottom for excess water to drain. Fill it with some soil, sow some coriander/basil/methi seeds and start growing your own kitchen herbs.

PEN STAND

You can hang the packet in your room and use it to store pens and other stationery material like paint brushes and pencils.

A HANDY BAG

Use it to keep knick knacks like hair bands, clips, beads, earrings, etc. You can also keep the packet in your bag to store things neatly so that you don't have to spend much time rummaging through the bag to find them.

AIR TIGHT BAG TO STORE FOOD

Clean air tight bags can always be utilised to store dry food items like cookies, granola bars, laddoos, dry fruits, home-made namkeen and so on.

SPILL PROOF TRAVEL PACK

Keep bottles of liquids like shampoos, moisturiser, body lotions and fragrances in these packets while travelling to ensure there is no leakage.

WASTE BIN

Have a few packets handy in your car and put chocolate, candy, biscuit wrappers or used tissues and even other waste material in it to avoid creating a mess on the seats.

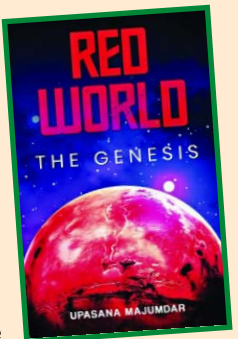
By Priya Prakash, co-founder of a health food brand

ADD THIS TO YOUR BOOKSHELF

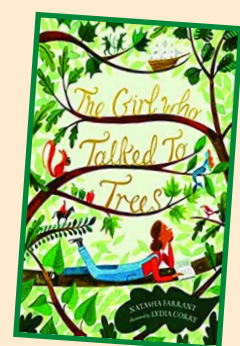
Here is a quick look at some of the latest releases from the world of books

RED WORLD: THE GENESIS BY UPASANA MAJUMDAR

Science fiction has long been obsessed with Mars. In the 19th century, the concept of sentient Martians became extremely popular. Giovanni Schiaparelli, an Italian astronomer, noticed channels on Mars, and Percival Lowell, a US astronomer, thought that these were canals made by ancient Martian civilisations in a desperate attempt to live on their drying, dying world. In the 'Red World', Upasana Majumdar sets up an interesting story set against the backdrop of the first Martian civilisation that navigates the deep regions of human emotions. The author imagines an innovative futuristic society featuring advanced artificial intelligence, how what happens when things don't go as planned. A fast paced adventure, this book is great for one of those lazy weekend afternoons.



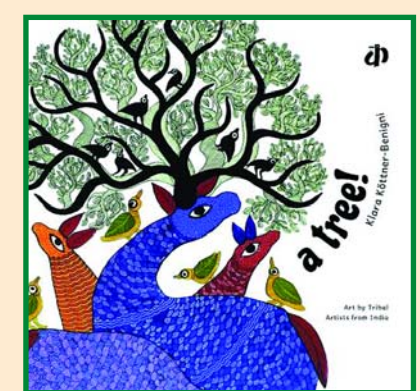
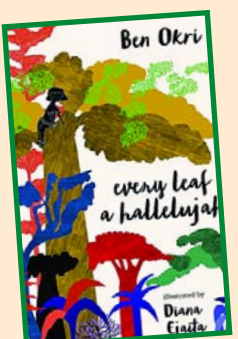
The Girl Who Talked to Trees by Natasha Farrant (Illustrated by Lydia Corry)



In this tale, Olive, a strange young woman, sets out to save her favourite oak, which is about to be cut down. The result is a magical realist series of interconnected stories in which diverse species reveal their secrets to Olive in order for her to become powerful enough to defend them all.

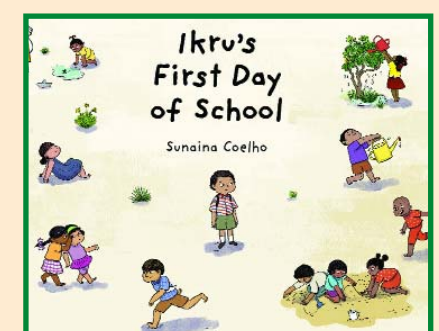
Every Leaf a Hallelujah by Ben Okri

Set against the backdrop of Africa, a young Mangoshi is on a journey to save her mother's life by harvesting a specific flower. But the forest has been wrecked, and the mission seemed hopeless until she, too, slips into a swoon and meets with a group of talking trees. Diana Ejaita's vibrant paintings reflect Mangoshi's dread as well as the trees' diverse personalities.



A Tree by Klara Köttner-Benigni

Klara Köttner-Benigni, a late Austrian writer and conservationist, wrote a modest poem about a tree that is lush and teeming with life before being cut down. From Warli and Gond to Madhubani and the uncommon Kurumba tradition, Katha Books has gathered together tribal artists from all over India to interpret Köttner-tree Benigni's in their own unique style, resulting in a book that is rich with visual detail.



Ikru's First Day of School by Sunaina Coelho

The wordless picture book by Sunaina Coelho is a graphic chronicle of the fresh experiences, fast friendships, and occasionally weird occurrences that await you on your first day of school. Coelho builds her world with effortless nuance and familiarity, constructing it as a sequence of vignettes based on real-life experiences.

PROWLING THE STREETS AT NIGHT

I am a woman, dear, and from the first day it was a crime, I must remember, never to wear short jeans, I must remember, not to rise out of my shackles, For it is you who roam the streets. You who play with our souls, You who harass my brethren with indifference to our health, our sanity. But you forgot, it is us too who rule the world. Bodicea who fought for her land, Teresa who took care of the people of her land, Naidu who wrote for souls of liveliness, And it is us who suffer everyday for your crimes.

Our tears are not in rivers, mind you. They are in the molten souls of

chopped bodies, and in the screams and cries of silenced women. We will not forget you, dear, your face or your crimes, We won't forget it ever.

Your indifference shocks us. The difference your backward thoughts can make betrays us But we are not down-trodden, not sad or sadder. We have just paused for a moment, waiting for retribution. We are warriors, dear, preparing to roast your souls in the cashews of the crimes you did.

Did it not hurt you, to see a

woman thrash about underneath you, helpless? Did it not kill you to kill her; take her life away? Her dreams, her wishes? Maybe it did, but you forgot Forgot humanity and embraced

insanity
Forgot dreams and wishes
But we never will, dear; forget the wishes of the dead.
You set our clothes on fire, we make stronger threads
You take our lives away. We treasure the ones here and the ones gone by more
You roam the streets at night, we rule them by day
You kill us in silence, we demand your execution with shouts and screams
You slow us down, we bring you pain slower, your death faster
You call us names, but we will never waste pretty names on you
Only show your face in cameras as you are taken to justice.

Don't mess with us; time and again, warriors have risen
Warriors who are ruthless,

and forbidding
Warriors who bring justice, and justice which demands warriors to show themselves
We are not alone anymore, our joined hands prove that.
Roam all you can at night, We will prowl the sleep from your eyes in the daylight.
Kill all you can, we will put dead bodies in beautiful graves together
We will remember them together
Laugh all you can, dear, one day, your tears will be ours, your screams will be silenced, your eyes will be closed, your throat worried in red.
Speak all you can, dear, when daylight comes, we are the ones who will scream
Screams of justice, not screams of fear.
And then we will roam the streets, day and night.

VANI MAKAN, class XI-C, Bal Bharati Public School, Sector-14, Rohini, New Delhi

Venkateshwarian sets world record

Venkateshwar Global School, Rohini proudly congratulates Krish Mittal of class XII on setting the World Record as the 'Youngest to write an educational book'. At the age of 15, Krish is the youngest to write an educational book by the name of 'Let's Learn C' and has set a new world record for 'International Book of Records'. Krish's



book is brilliantly authored which makes learning C, a computer programming language, a child's play.

A book is a gift that you can open again and again

The book launch event held at Manaskriti School, Greater Faridabad on November 13 was glorified by the presence of the author Dr Jaishree Sethi, Shweta Aggarwal (founder-booksensebeyond) Usha Sharma (professor and co-ordinator, NCERT, Delhi), and Fauzia Nadeem (professor, IASE, Jamia Millia Islamia) Jamila.

The questions put up and Dr Jaishree's answer to them made the event in-



teresting and motivating. The audience was truly honoured to know the art of storytelling from Dr Jaishree.

While addressing the audience, school principal Jyoti Bhalla further elaborated on how teachers can use storytelling in classrooms to exploit its poten-

tial while transacting the curriculum at the senior school level as well.

The event was followed by a book-sign session with Dr Jaishree Sethi.

The complete program was glorious and admirable for it was based on such a beautiful art of storytelling.

Children are the gift of God



Children's day as we know marks the birthday of our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He loved children dearly and is fondly remembered as Chacha Nehru. It's a special occasion in the life of kids.

Modern Public, Shalimar Bagh celebrates Children's Day every year on November 14 with great pomp and enthusiasm. It's a day that makes the joys of childhood. Chacha Nehru was a strong believer of instilling moral virtues in children. This day therefore, emphasises the importance of

showing love and affection to each child. Keeping this in mind, a card making activity was conducted for preschool kids in which they made a beautiful card using fingertip printing. To make them feel special, a story enactment was also conducted by teachers on the theme 'wild animals' in which fictional characters Chacha Choudhary, Pinky and various animals. Through this enactment, kids learnt a lesson that wisdom is stronger than physical strength. It was a delightful session for kids and they enjoyed a lot.

VBS celebrates Children's Day with pomp

Vidya Bharati School, Ghaziabad pre-primary/primary and the middle wing celebrated Children's Day with a variety of offline and online activities designed to make the day memorable and joyous for the children.

The activities included fun online games, quiz, motivational videos and outdoor games such as tic-tac-toe, hurdle race, musical chairs among many others. The activities were thoroughly en-

joyed by the children and they loved the experience of a day dedicated to them. Sweets were distributed to all the students as a token of love.

The VBS senior secondary students celebrated the day with children from the

Manovikas Institute for children with special needs, which they visited as part of the VBS Children's Day activities.

The students were introduced to the functioning of the institute and the purpose of the visit, that of sharing and caring for everyone in the society.

The children from Manovikas showcased dance performances which they had prepared. They were also joined by the VBS students,

making the atmosphere in the institute most happy and enjoyable. VBS students distributed gifts to the children and everyone enjoyed refreshments together. A strong sense of understanding and bonding could be seen developing between the VBS students and the children at Manovikas.



Student Corner

FATIMA CHAUDHARY, class XII D2, Hamdard Public School, Sangam Vihar

SACHLEEN KAUR BHATIA, class VI, Vivek Summit school Patel Nagar

Glorious Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur

One who is beyond praise and slander, who looks upon gold and iron alike -says Nanak, listen, mind: Know that such a person is liberated and alive.

Sword in his hands since the age of five, so pure and saintly; his father, the sixth sikh, his son will be the Sikh guru was his belief 'Hind ki chadar' was guru teg's posthumously name, publicly executed by

Mughals and not a hint of fear; brought upon a revolution like a spark to the flame.

A man protecting religion, not of his own, at expense of suffering and deaths. Is a man worth worshipping and giving the throne? The gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib, site where guru was beheaded, is a testimony of divinity and faith, where people in their

heart gets his teachings imbedded.

'Bachittar natak', a composition of chants is a contour; performed in Sikh, places of worship reverberates, in hearts, minds and souls as a reminiscence of, The glorious martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur.

Nimit Sarnet, class XI-D, St Thomas' School, Dwarka

JKG INT'L HOLD DRAWING COMPETITION

It was indeed a proud moment for all JK-Gians that Rotary Club of Ghaziabad (3012) organised a drawing competition on November 14 on the occasion of Children's day at JKG International School, Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad.

More than 200 students participated in the drawing competition. The students were divided into three groups. Students under seven years sketched monuments of India; students between 8 to 11 years of age presented Smart City and the students between 11 to 14 years depicted many thought provoking sketches on the theme of 'Social Media: Good or bad'.



The competition was organised in the supervision of Anju Gaur school principal and the presidents of Rotary club of Ghaziabad (Vijay Nagar, Pratap Vihar and Rajnagar).

The winners were duly awarded by Rtn J K Gaur (past Distt governor) and Rtn and principal Anju Gaur.

Budding gymnastic champion

Tushar Tuteja of class VII of DAV Public School, Sreshtha Vihar, is a budding gymnastic champion.

He got all round second position in 60th Delhi State Gymnastic championship (under 12).

He has won three gold and four silver medals. Tushar is also selected in the Delhi team for upcoming sub Junior National Gymnastic Championship 2021. School Principal Suhasini KNath congratulated him and wishes him all the best for his future.



THE EDUCATIONIST Work mindfully, manage time

"Karmanye vadhikaraste, ma phaleshou kada chana, ma karma phala hetur bhurmate sangostva akarmani."
Bhagavad Gita

It means you have the right to work only but never to its fruits. Let not the fruits of action be your motive, nor let your attachment be to inaction.

Even if we work very hard with clear action plans, we cannot control the outcome of our actions. So if you really cannot control it, it's better not to try it. Instead, focus on what you can control. You can control only your actions.

The action should be more motivated by love of doing it rather than motivated by its reward. For example, if you are singer, you should sing for the love and passion of singing and not for dreaming of fame or money. The joy of doing the action itself should be your reward.

Obviously, living life on these terms has some practical limitations. Yet, this is where we should be headed for to attain joy and peace.

Time management is considered of utmost importance by all. When we make a time management system, we are always worried about what will happen if we don't accomplish those things. We are motivated purely by the desire for rewards. It often results in fear and anxiety of losing the rewards. Sometimes, we feel guilty. Guilty of wasting time, or guilty of not doing enough. We waste our time on thinking of prioritised tasks, scheduled back to back. We never think whether we like what we are doing.

The doctrine of 'Gita' advocates that first and foremost goal of time management system should be that



you enjoy creating a time-management system. We should create a list of tasks and mark them done as we complete them. At the end of the day, we cross the tasks completed as per plan. It's like throwing a dart at a blank screen and putting a circle around wherever the dart has hit. In Jonathan

Livingston's book 'Seagull', the seagull tells about going from one place to another in a flash. "The secret of going there, is to realise that you have already arrived." So, in a way, secret of successfully managing time is to realise that you are already managing it well by doing your work mindfully.

Manoranjini V, principal, Amrita Vidyalayam, Edappally, Ernakulam

Express YOURSELF

Distance keeps us knit

A tiny virus has changed our world suddenly. It has changed the ways in which we are taught, we learn, work is done, exams are conducted, we consult doctors and much more.

The pandemic has put a distance between each other, but in a way it has also united us.

It has been more than a one-and-a-half years since we went to real school, wore uniforms, gathered for assemblies, played in the open or playgrounds, or met dear friends. To overcome this situation, people have started connecting online—chats, meets or other social media applications. Teaching has moved from the boards to computers. My father is working from home but he is regularly in touch with his colleagues, his boss and his friends. The world has come together to our living room and I believe distance has united us more than ever.

Ryan Raymond Donston, class VII, MGM Central Public School, Thiruvananthapuram



MUSINGS

Take me to places
Where I have
never been to.
To the mountains,
the streams,
To the wilderness
Where I can be 'the
real me',
Not the me.



Where I can find
solace,
Where I can be
myself,
From all the hustle
and bustle
Of temper tantrums
From false faces, from
harshness

Of life and reality.
Take me to places,
Where I can be me,
Simply me.

Nivea Paulose, English Teacher, St Peter's Senior Secondary School, Kadayiruppu, Ernakulam

LIVING DEATH

In a flash there came,
A ball of fire on the earth,
burning us in and out,
like a whirling propeller it
moved,
with its flawless public
facade,
It unbalanced the whole world.

Uncertainly gazed the mortals,
Harmony lost, distancing favoured.
Is it a cruel game by our fellow men?
Or is it a retribution from mother



Earth?
All humans incarcerated so,
Scourged the Mother Earth
will heal us again.

Oh Corona! You a pandemic
Like Satan, brought our fall
Lessons we learnt many and one
What you sow, so shall you reap!
We will therefore break this chain,
Masks and sanitisers enjoy.

Amritakrishna, class IX, SBOA Public (Sr Sec) School, Ernakulam

ZVEREV HALTS DJOKOVIC

DENIES THE SERB ANOTHER CHANCE TO MATCH FEDERER'S RECORD OF SIX TITLES

For the second time this year, Alexander Zverev has denied Novak Djokovic the chance to play for a big trophy. Following up his win over the top-ranked player in the semifinals of the Tokyo Olympics, Zverev beat Djokovic 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-3 at the same stage of the ATP Finals. "Every time we play against each other, it's very high level," Zverev said. "This year we played each other five times. ... Every time we played for multiple hours and it was very physical."

The result means Djokovic can't match Roger Federer's record of six titles at the season-ending event for the top eight players. At least not this year. "He's the greatest player of all time and I think people forget that sometimes," Zverev said of Djokovic, who shares the record of 20 Grand Slam titles with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Errors did him in. Djokovic committed a series of uncharacteristic baseline errors to hand Zverev the decisive break midway through the third set. Zverev then held his nerve, saving a break point, before serving a slicing ace down the T on his first match point. "I just had the one very bad game in the third set - three forehand, one backhand unforced errors, really from pretty easy position," Djokovic said.

The tone of the match, though, was set in the first set, after Zverev saved a set point at 4-5. In the first-set tiebreaker, a challenge from Zverev forced Djokovic to hit a second serve and resulted in a double fault. Then a backhand drop shot from Djokovic clipped the net and hopped over, enabling Zverev time to run it down and reply with a sharply angled forehand cross-court winner.

At 5-4 in the tiebreaker, Zverev crushed a backhand winner up the line to conclude a

long rally, then produced a big serve out wide on his first set point that Djokovic couldn't return.

In September at the US Open, Medvedev ended Djokovic's bid for a calendar-year Grand Slam by beating the Serb in the final to lift his first trophy at a major. He now beat first-time qualifier Casper Ruud 6-4, 6-2 earlier as he seeks to defend his title in the first edition of the tournament in Turin - after 12 years in London. Ruud, who also lost to Djokovic in straight sets in his opening round-robin match, said that getting beat soundly by the top two players "makes me want to seek revenge and become a better player for the next year."

The doubles final will feature Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury against Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut.

NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Novak Djokovic said he has not yet decided whether he would compete at January's Australian Open after organisers confirmed that all players must be vaccinated against COVID-19 if they want to compete at the season's opening Grand Slam event.

"We'll see. We'll have to wait and see," world number one Djokovic told reporter. Djokovic, who has declined to say publicly if he has been vaccinated, is currently tied with Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal with 20 Grand Slam titles.

The Australian Open, which he has won nine times, is seen as a golden opportunity for him to take the lead over his rivals.

Nadal confirmed he would play at Melbourne Park in January but Federer, who like the Spaniard is also fully vaccinated, will miss the tournament as he recovers from another knee surgery.

Zverev said, "we are visiting another country. This is not about tennis. This is about the virus that is on. We need to follow the rules and follow the guidelines. I hope he's able to play." REUTERS

Alexander Zverev

Photo: AP

BARCA EDGE PAST ESPANYOL

Give Xavi debut victory as coach in LaLiga match they almost let slip

Xavi Hernandez enjoyed a win on his return to Camp Nou as Barcelona's new coach, with Memphis Depay scoring in a 1-0 victory against Espanyol.

Barcelona's attack failed to turn its huge advantage in possession into shots on goal other than Memphis Depay's second-half penalty, while its defense came apart in the final stretch. Only Espanyol's misfiring forwards stopped the Catalan derby from ending in a draw. Depay broke through for Barcelona two minutes into the second half of the Catalan derby. The Netherlands striker converted a penalty he had earned after

ATLETICO, SEVILLA ADVANCE

Atletico Madrid climbed to within two points of the top of La Liga after Felipe's 87th-minute header sealed a 1-0 victory over Osasuna. They close the gap on Sevilla, who had earlier moved into first place despite being held to a 2-2 draw by a resurgent Alaves. They go top on goal difference. AFP

a key pass by Gavi Paez.

The crowd of 74,000 chanted "Xavi! Xavi!" in the sixth minute in honor of the

number Xavi wore for 17 seasons. Xavi is back after six years playing and coaching in Qatar as the man the club hopes can restore the team to greatness.

Xavi happy

"Overall, I am happy, but it is clear that we have to improve," Xavi said. "We are building a new project and these three points in a derby gives us a boost. It was tough because they could have scored. We were in control for 60, 70 minutes, but we should have been more patient and held onto the ball. It is a question of knowing how to interpret the match." Barcelona moved into sixth place in the Spanish league, eight points behind leader Sevilla. AP

Xavi Hernandez

LIVERPOOL DISMANTLE ARSENAL

Make light work of winning streak in Premier League to end Arteta's unbeaten run

Liverpool handed Arsenal a harsh reality check by tearing through the Gunners in the second half for a 4-0 win in the Premier League.

A resurgent Arsenal side had the chance to climb above Liverpool in the stand-

ings with a win, but Juergen Klopp's side gave the visitors a reminder that there is still a big gulf in class between the teams. Liverpool's unbeaten start to the season had ended at West Ham before the international break but the Reds looked back to their best at Anfield. Arse-

nal was on a 10-match unbeaten streak. Mikel Arteta got into a heated shouting match with Klopp on the touchline when the game was still scoreless, and the incident seemed to spark both the Anfield crowd and Liverpool's players.

Running up the score

Sadio Mane scored the opener in the first half and Liverpool then dismantled Arteta's side after the break, with Diogo Jota, Mohamed Salah and substitute Takumi Minamino running up the scoreline. The win lifted Liverpool into second place, four behind Chelsea. Arsenal remained fifth. AP

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Mohamed Salah

QUIZ TIME!



Q1: Which team won the T20I World Cup 2021?

- a. New Zealand
- b. Australia
- c. India
- d. England

Q2: Who among the following served as India's first Test Captain?

- a. Sunil Gavaskar
- b. Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan
- c. C. K. Nayudu
- d. Lala Amarnath

Q3: "The World Beneath His Feet" is a biography of ____

- a. Pullela Gopichand
- b. Rahul Dravid
- c. Ajit Wadekar
- d. Sachin Tendulkar

Q4: How far is the service line from the net in lawn tennis?

- a. 25 feet
- b. 19 feet
- c. 20 feet
- d. 21 feet

Q5: Which among the following is the first country to win the World Cup on home soil?

- a. Australia
- b. India
- c. England
- d. West Indies

Q6: Which year did MS Dhoni make his ODI Debut?

- a. 2000
- b. 2011
- c. 1998
- d. 2004



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q7: Who was named as the "Supreme Champion" by WBC?

- a. Floyd Mayweather
- b. Lennox Lewis
- c. Erik Morales
- d. Tony Bellew

Q8: Which country houses the headquarters of the "International Olympic Committee"?

- a. Greece
- b. Switzerland
- c. Belgium
- d. France

Q9: Who is the first recipient of the "most valuable player

(MVP)" award of the Asian Games?

- a. Koji Ito
- b. Kosuke Kitajima
- c. Park Tae-hwan
- d. Lin Dan

Q10: Which country houses the Perth Stadium?

- a. England
- b. India
- c. New Zealand
- d. Australia

ANSWERS: 1. b. Australia 2. c. CK Nayudu
3. a. Pullela Gopichand 4. d. 21 feet
5. b. India 6. d. 2004
7. a. Floyd Mayweather 8. b. Switzerland
9. a. Koji Ito 10. d. Australia