



THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY

04.05.2020
Vol. 1 Issue 4



Fr K. L. George, SJ

RECTOR'S *message*

“A thing of beauty is a joy for ever” – John Keats, Endymion Book I

Covid-19 has incarcerated us all. For many it is a great agony. For some it is a welcome solitude. As I walk around the quadrangle of a 132-year-old prison-like building and its surroundings, I see and hear many things which one comes across in a more natural surrounding such as a forest. In this powerful solitude I contemplate the mysteries of our Mother Earth. And I am drawn by a mid-day dream to enter an Earth with all the splendour of nature, except the Homo sapiens. The Heaven came down and glory filled the Earth. I wondered if it were La Belle Dame Sans Merci. I carry no sarcasm or irony. Oh, what an experience that was! A world without the humans! Beauty is reborn in nature and what a joy that is! A virgin Earth: a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. Not an Earth that has been vandalised and had gone to waste.

From the time the humans went indoors the animals, the reptiles and the birds have started returning to human habitations, perhaps their once-upon-a-time habitat. Many videos make rounds around the globe showing how these non-humans freely roam around on human grounds. I see the mouse move around and hear the twitter of the birds on trees. No mouse on pad or twitter on web do I see here. Our school at North Point is largely free of people due to the lockdown. But it has turned out to be a place of rejuvenation. This issue of The North Point Weekly gives you a glimpse of what has happened during your absence, dear North Pointers. We want to give you a taste of your school even in your absence at North Point. I believe, we can all say with John Keats,

*“Beauty is truth, truth beauty, - that is all
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know” – Ode on a Grecian Urn*



Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ

from the PRINCIPAL'S DESK

When the school began on 25th February 2020, after the winter vacation, the school was happy to have the young men back to the Twin Towers of learning. In a short time we had many new plans and our young men were getting ready to reach the zenith of the year. But the Covid-19 brought us to a halt, though not our spirit. Everyone is working extra hard though none of us are used to this situation before. Alexander Graham Bell remarked: *“When one door closes another door opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.”*

The present situation has compelled us to work from home. It has forced us to be creative. It has let us spend quality time with our dear ones. It has provided us time to know ourselves better. It has led us to help those in need in our neighborhoods. We have become kinder and more humane by contributing to relief works. We are able to appreciate the goodness in every person. Finally we have time for ourselves, to relax, to reflect and to rejuvenate so that we may be able to cope with

post Covid-19 situation.

Our young men have grown to be more creative and their hidden talents have been reawakened. There have been many budding poets and artists. Many of their prompt responses to home works and other extra-curricular activities have been praiseworthy despite the poor network connectivity many are facing these days. I appreciate every one of you dear parents, teachers and my dear students for challenging yourself during these days. I assure you all that the school is doing everything possible to reach out to the children through online classes, video classes and providing study materials, and resource materials through various apps. Parents, please ask your children to use those apps which we have suggested for certain subjects, so that when they are free their personal learning through those apps will help them understand the subjects well. I am also at the moment thinking of google class for everyone, despite the network slowing down in the process. Everyone is trying their best to achieve the goal and this prompts me to think that *“Sometimes good things fall apart so better things can fall together.”*

Be patient. Keep learning. Continue to do your homework regularly. Do not let yourself get into boredom. We hope and trust that this too will pass away, and soon!

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP



Sharan Kumar Gurung
*Deputy Controller of Exams
Supervisor of Class 8*

*“If you try, you risk failure.
If you don’t, you ensure it.”*

Covid 19, Lockdown, Quarantine, Isolation, E-classes – these are a few of the terms which all of us have familiarized ourselves with in 2020. Since it began its world tour from Wuhan, Corona virus has claimed several lives and affected the lives of millions throughout the globe. Our education system too has been badly hit by it. This pandemic has become a challenge for both the teacher and the taught. However, the lessons learnt will be priceless. Parents are the heroes, as their responsibilities have surged manifold. Managing their own work from home (WFH), doing household chores, helping children with their studies, lining up to collect essential commodities, and doing everything to keep family members safe.... to name a few, is not an easy task.

North Point is trying every possible way to reach out to the students in this hour of crisis. E-classes is not an easy task for the teachers, especially when it has not been done before the onslaught of Covid19. Disseminating education online involves careful research, preparation of notes, careful selection and presentation of the study material. As a matter of fact, it requires more effort than that required in the physical classroom. From the very onset of lockdown in entire nation, we have been trying to help the students through digital media. The school website was modified to facilitate uploading of assignments, preparatory notes and to enable conducting of MCQ online test for the students of different classes. Teachers are putting in painstaking efforts in uploading assignments, audio-video lessons, YouTube links, MCQ online tests at regular intervals. After careful review, we have recommended few online learning Apps like Meritnation, Skippy, Extramarks, PIE, DeltaStep to our students. Teachers have been trying innovative ways of honing the students by conducting online competition in art, singing, photography, cartoon etc. North Point has even tied up with Nutshell, a company specializing in quiz and current affairs, which is providing free access to students from classes III to IX. In spite of poor internet connection, majority

of the students are submitting the completed assignments through emails. We also tried Zoom App for conducting live video classes; however, due to security issues and poor internet connection, it was discontinued. Later, it proved to be a wise decision as many educational institutions have stopped using such apps following massive misuse and compromised security. There were requests from different quarters for creation of WhatsApp groups for different classes for easy interaction with teachers. However, after carefully examining its advantages and disadvantages, the school decided not to go ahead with it. Moreover, school is keeping in touch regularly with all the parents through bulk SMS and WhatsApp broadcast messages through its official number +91-9735384834.

Apart from these, the Council, in collaboration with Bengali news channels ABP Ananda and News 18 Bangla is telecasting live classes during weekends for ICSE and ISC students. All stakeholders are trying their best in all possible manners to maintain continuity of the educational system in this battle between “man and microbe”.

Dear parents, although this invisible enemy has badly affected the studies of our children, however, their learning has not stopped. They have missed classes, but they have learnt priceless lessons of kindness, humanity, compassion, selfless service, importance of and respect to human life.... just to name a few which otherwise would not have been possible for us to teach with “chalk and talk”. Most of all they are learning to adapt to changes, to accept the things that cannot be changed, to share space, and to value things that have often been taken for granted. I am sure all of us will come out of this with hearts bigger and kinder. The learning of life skills is indeed an invaluable one.
Sursum Corda!



Mr Noel Rai
Senior Coordinator

M O T H E R S

A Tribute on Mothers’ Day

A thought, which I have shared in my Sociology classes a number of times on the topic ‘Family’ – A young boy and a girl are deeply in love with each other. They cannot live without each other. “How much do you love me?” the girl asks the boy one day. “I love you so much that I can do anything to prove my love to you” replies the boy. So, the girl is happy and tells the boy to go to his mother, kill her and bring his mother’s heart to her. The boy is stunned, how could he kill his mother but he must prove his love for the girl. He kills the mother and is hurriedly running to the girl with the mother’s heart in his hands when he suddenly hits a stone and falls on the road. The heart too has gone out his hand and is lying on the other side of the road. As the boy writhes in pain, the mother’s heart calls out ‘Son, are you hurt?’ This, then, is a mother’s heart, a mother’s love.

On the 10th of May every year, the world celebrates Mothers Day, though some countries have their own dates for the day. How can we describe our mothers – a difficult task perhaps, words are not enough to depict the roles our mothers play in our lives. Mothers are indispensable, they are likely the first people we ever know or see when we come into the world. They love us and care for us as we grow.

Mothers Day is celebrated to honour all mothers of the world, to recognize their motherhood, the maternal bonds, the sacrifices they make for us, their numerous contributions in making our lives meaningful and worth living. Mothers Day is to be grateful and acknowledge our mothers for everything they do for us. As I write this, I think of my own mother, the sacrifices she has made, her maternal love and blessings – not enough to describe her. My two brothers, sister and I were not brought up in materialistic

comfort but definitely in maternal comfort. She is now aged eighty three and in Delhi. We are eternally grateful to her.

All of you reading this must have come across William Ross Wallace’s famous lines “Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world” (1865 poem “What rules the World”). These lines speak about the influence a mother has upon her child as well as upon society. Every mother strives to nurture and teach a child and make the world a better place to live. Mothers are the most influential educators. A mother’s heart has everything to do with love, compassion, tenderness and toughness as well. They teach us the power of words, what they speak or tell us have enormous effect upon us. What about our own mothers at home – do we love them and recognize their contributions, do we show our gratitude to them? There’s nothing like a mother’s love.

It is said that an American lady by the name Ann Jarvis formed clubs to promote peace and friendship during the American Civil War of 1861–65. When she died, her daughter Anna Jarvis on 10th May 1908 established Mother’s Day to honour her. Mothers Day spread to other countries gradually. To our own ‘misses’ in school, you are not only mothers to your children at home but also mothers to the twelve hundred boys in school. We salute you, appreciate your work and recognize your roles not only as teachers but as good mothers too. God’s abundant blessings be upon all of you always. We are proud of you. North Point reveres you. A wall poster in my son Daniel’s room reads “*God could not be everywhere, so He made Mothers*”. Here’s wishing all mothers A HAPPY MOTHERS DAY.

“Lend a hand to a faltering brother..”

A wellwisher has sent us these images of the organization DKKS(Drishti Khel Khud Saangh) celebrating their first anniversary on 1st May. Our teachers Mr Evan Gurung and Mr Pravesh Pradhan are founding members. Ever since the lockdown, the organization has been actively distributing relief material to the needy. They also distributed food packets to the front line warriors of the Darjeeling Police. On their anniversary, they distributed relief material to the needy in Harsing, Raniban and Dali areas of Darjeeling.

We wish them the very best. Sursum Corda



Mr Parag Ekka

“Adversity breeds Opportunity”

More than a month has passed by and we're still confined to precincts of our homes, thanks to the pandemic of our times. More than anything my heart reaches out to our students, especially those from class ten and twelve. Most of whom must have waited for months and years to get to this point to make sure they have the time of their lives- in the class ,on the field and with their friends in the year that matters so much to them. The carnivals and the Edinburgh have already been sacrificed the altar of Corona. A similar fate probably awaits other activities as well unless there is a miraculous turn of events. I am a firm believer that North pointers have always had the X- factor in their DNA because of our emphasis on sports and extra-curricular activities. The lessons learnt, be it, in the class or the field or on the stage , I guess, have always played a pivotal role in the formation of our beloved boys.

Boys, adversity breeds opportunity. Every loss is lesson to be learnt. We have to use this setback to soar even higher. We cannot lose hope, faith or focus. The dream that you had at the beginning of the year still needs to be nourished. The fulfillment

of it has simply been delayed not denied. In these testing times you are learning perhaps the greatest lesson of your lives that. Life is never fair..just when you think you have all the answers life throws a new question at you, so in these trying times hang in there. Don't quit. Don't let this time become an excuse for doing something you won't be proud of. This is nothing but a minor speed bump in our lives as our destinations are still a long way off.

Till we meet again cherish the times at home. Add an extra dimension to your being. Learn and master a new art. Let this chapter of your life be as beautiful and inspiring as the ones before it. So that when we meet again all of you have a story to tell, but will it be a story worth listening to? Stay safe.

God bless you.

ALUMNI CONNECT



Tenzing Lamsang

Lift Up Your Hearts!

The writer is the Editor/Founder of a private national newspaper in Bhutan called THE BHUTANESE. He graduated from North Point in 2002 from class 12 and was a Prefect of Fallon House.

As I write this, the global Coronavirus count has exceeded 3 million (mn) with more than 200,000 deaths, and the numbers of new infections and deaths will only keep increasing in the coming weeks and months.

However, the figures also show that there is hope. While we may have around 3 mn cases, the numbers of recovered cases are around 1 mn. The slew of social distancing measures carried out around the world appears to be having an impact on slowing down the virus.

For example, the number of global cases took 11 days to double from 1 mn to 2 mn by 13th April. As of 29th April or 18 days later, the toll has increased by 1 mn to take it to 3 mn -showing a slowdown.

Apart from the figures, several countries and companies are racing to find a vaccine or a cure. The most promise, as of now, comes from a team in Oxford University which could have the first few doses of a potential vaccine coming out by September, if the mass human trials go well. The signs so far have been promising, including results from tests on rhesus macaque monkeys.

However, whatever the timeline, in all probability, there will either be a vaccine or cure by the end of this year or early next year.

The numbers in India may look alarming crossing 30,000 cases and 1,000 deaths on 29th April, but it could have been exponentially worse without a four-week lockdown.

What happens in India or West Bengal, or for that matter in the Darjeeling hills, will now depend on the ability of the Indian government, West Bengal state government and local district-level health authorities to aggressively test, trace and quarantine patients -like what South Korea has done.

Given the lockdown in India and the closure of schools, the students of North Point, like other schools, have been doing online assignments. While health must always get top priority, it is also important to ensure that education does not take a major backseat.

This is a unique period where the burden is not just on the teachers and students, but also on parents.

Every crisis is an opportunity and students must take this crisis as an opportunity to learn from home remotely and also hone their self-discipline.

Education is not just what you do when you have a teacher or parent peering over your shoulder, but it is largely about what you do when you don't have them around to hand-hold you.

The journey from high school to college gives one enhanced freedom and a chance to explore yourself. But once you graduate from college and enter the 'real world,' it feels like a life long umbilical cord being cut.

The ones who do well from here on are the ones who are dedicated (to their chosen field or profession) and resourceful, with the ability to deal with all kinds of situations and people.

Use this crisis has an opportunity to know yourself better, including your limitations, and then build from there to enhance your abilities and strengths for the future.

Two key lessons from the crisis are about leadership and systems.

The USA, led by a volatile President Donald Trump has performed very poorly due to the inability to act early and decisively, which is why it has more than 1 mn cases and around 60,000 deaths. This is the world's richest and most powerful country with the most advanced medical technologies.

On the other hand, Bhutan, under the leadership of His Majesty The King, supported by a competent Prime Minister and Cabinet, has had only seven imported cases (five detected in quarantine) so far, with no local transmission due to early and strategic decisions. Five of the patients have made a full recovery already.

Though a poor country, Bhutan's testing rates are among the highest in the world (the highest in South Asia) and since the country, over the decades, invested heavily in its free state health care system (we have no private hospitals), it gave an important edge in contact tracing and treatment.

It is good to see the North Point school helping the less fortunate by supplying relief materials to hundreds of needy families in Darjeeling. This is truly in the NP Spirit, to 'lend a hand to a faltering brother.' The NP Alumni here in Bhutan has donated 3 mn Ngultrums (equivalent to Rupee) to help with efforts around Coronavirus.

These are gloomy times but this will also pass and in the mean time stay safe and stay true to our school motto of 'Sursum Corda' or 'lift up your hearts.'



*Akhil Ratna Chettri
ISC - 2017*

To my dear North Pointers

Hi there! My dear NP boys, hope you and your family are safe. Missing school yet? I'm sure you are, if not for that lazy chemistry class after lunch, but for those happy times with your friends at the Quadrangle, basking in the sun while you sneakily lie on the grass. I'm sure you all have big plans with your friends/relatives once all of this is over and I hope you carry them out. But for now, 'we gotta do what we gotta do'.

Take this time as great opportunity where you can generously spend time with your family. There are a quite a lot of things you can do together. Try baking that perfect cake that you are dying for, or make that 'beech galli number 9' delicious samosas. Cleaning the house together in itself can be a great physical work-out. Do anything that'll keep you happily busy. It is possible that you are going to get pretty bored doing all of that if this becomes a routine, so what's next? More like, what is NOT next?

Go find out the things you like. You will never know if you like doing something unless you try it out. So go mad with your experimentations. Maybe you will love cooking, drawing, reading, or something very new to you, like, making YouTube videos of the genre you love, writing a blog, making cool animations, making good music, and the list goes on.

Our school is the best place where you can come with great ideas and expect people to support you. Trust me, if you have a sound idea, you are definitely going to get that support. You and your friends can come up with something extremely new that you can start in school and make it a legacy. There are so many unexplored territories in school that might fascinate you. We have our wonderful photography and art exhibition in school, how about you throw in some digital art text time? We have our fabulous orchestra, how about you have something on similar grounds, but with some EDM's or Rock music that you yourself created. This might not be as interesting to you all but the point being, think something extremely new and big. Create a legacy that you can feel good about when you see it being carried out even after 10 years from now. This is the most apt time to do the brain storming and to start planning it.

When I was in school, I was involved in various things with lovely people and that is what I cherish the most. Start by giving it a good thought and stay safe.



Abhimanyu Agarwal
ISC - 2003

Hello everyone!

I hope all are doing good. Students must be enjoying their quarantine holidays. Sometimes holidays also gets little monotonous especially when you got nothing to do or nowhere to go. Many of you students must be doing something or the other to keep the time passing. As we are unsure of the opening of the lockdown there are few suggestions which our dear boys could do at home.

When you are free and got nothing much to do you tend to feel hungrier and you keep hogging and feel lazy as a result you end up adding some extra fats, so what boys can do as what I am following is just do rope skipping, it's the best little physical activity u can do at home. You can do at least 15 minutes of skipping in two slots each, one in morning and the other in evening. Along with skipping you guys can also do little bit of stretching.

I am sure school must be sending some online assignments too, along with the usual school assignments please take out some time to read books also. One can also cultivate new hobbies too in these times like gardening or growing vegetables at home. These days all information is readily available i n YouTube so boys can try growing vegetables in their own backyards or roofs or anywhere.

I hope this lockdown gets over soon and wish boys speedy return to the twin towers. Till then take care of yourself and your family and also please try to help any needy around if you can.

Sursum Corda!

Eggless Banana Cake



Pallav Sharma
ISC - 2017

If you try out this recipe do tag me on Instagram.

My social media handles :



<https://www.instagram.com/foodastagram>



<https://www.facebook.com/foodastagram>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV0L2GjTPOiSv7SGXVFF42g>

Banana Cake most popularly known as Banana Bread is a classic American dessert. Since I made it in a cake pan instead of a bread tray, I am calling it a cake. It is every bit as delicious as it is easy to bake this eggless banana cake. I had wanted to make a banana cake for a long time and today I finally had all the ingredients that I needed to bake one. I took some instructions from a YouTube video in order to make this cake and also made a couple of changes.

If you want a slice of eggless banana cake, here's how i made it:

(The following recipe is for a simple banana cake. You can always switch it up by adding Choco chips, walnuts and other such fillings of your choice.)

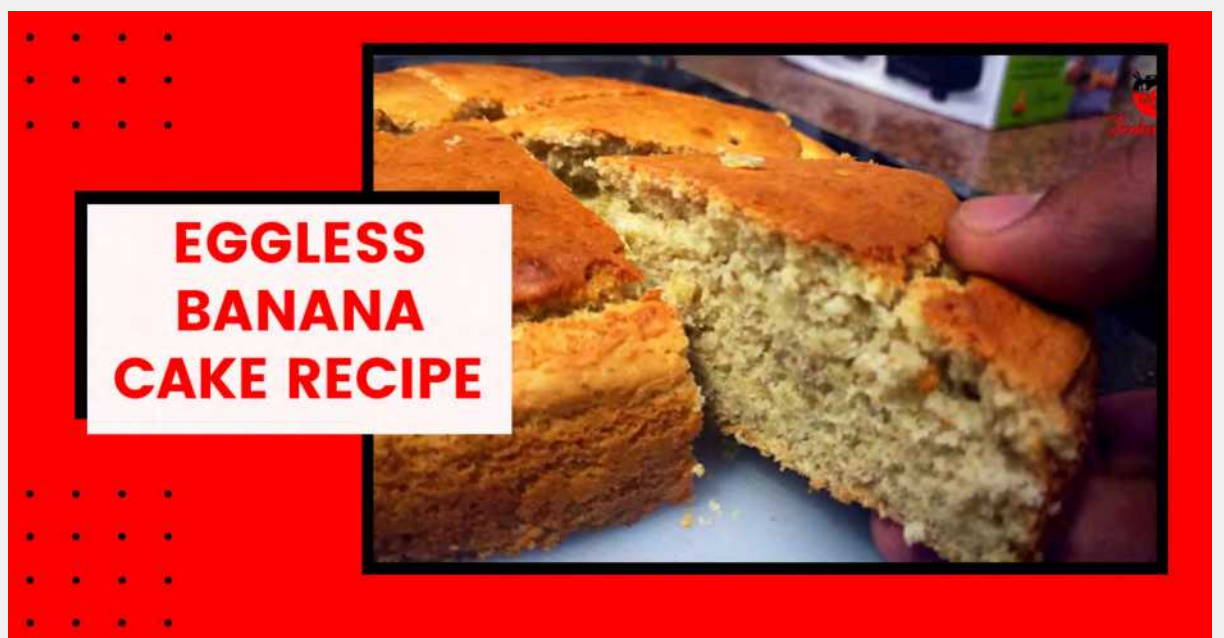
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Peel the bananas and mash them in a bowl with a fork.
2. Pour the mashed bananas into the container where you will whisk the batter
3. Add Sugar and butter and mix them properly. I used a hand mixer but you can also use a hand beater or anything to mix it.
4. After the mixture is properly mixed. Add flour, corn flour, baking powder and baking soda. I suggest you to use a wire mesh to avoid lumps in the batter. And add milk
5. Now you will have to mix the batter well and see there is no dry ingredient left and the batter is smooth. While you do this pour the vanilla essence to the batter and keep mixing it.
6. Once your batter is ready to be baked pour it into the baking pan.
7. Before you put your cake into the oven make sure it's preheated and Bake it for 45-55 minutes at 180C. OR - If you do not have an oven, then you can use a pan big enough to fit the cake tin easily after covering the pan with the lid. Place a stand, cover it and heat the pan for 5 mins on medium flame to preheat it. After 5 mins place the cake pan with the batter on the stand and cook it on low flame for 40-50 mins.
8. To check if your cake is ready or not use a toothpick and dip it inside the cake. When you take it out if you see anything sticking to it then you should bake your cake for some more time as it is not cooked yet. If the cake is cooked, then you will not see anything sticking to the toothpick.
9. Once the cake is cooked take the pan out of the oven and let it cool. After the cake is cooled put the pan upside down to take the cake out of it.
10. Cut it and put it in a plate and it is ready to be served

You can find the video recipe that I have made on my YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/npGiYKPuThQ>

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pcs Banana
- 1/2 cup Sugar
- 1/4 cup Melted Butter
- 1 cup Flour
- 1/2 tbsp Corn Flour
- 1 tsp Baking Powder
- 1/2 tsp Baking Soda
- 1 cup Milk
- 1/2 tsp Vanilla Essence



CREATIVE N.P.

A Short Lockdown Experience



The onset of summer this year saw the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A time of beautiful weather and scenery in Darjeeling and nobody around to go and witness it. A cruel fate indeed, for those who accept it. Being a teenager at prime age to rebel and not face severe consequences I couldn't help but utilize this to my advantage. An opportunity to see the town in a new light with very few people around was too good to pass on. Hence began my 'explorations' during the lockdown.

My first few days leaving the house were just basic supply runs. I made my trip from Batase to Ghoom on foot, something still quite unfamiliar to me. I had only recently shifted to Batase, and Ghoom was still relatively new to me. During my short 20 minute walks I saw people carefully walking home with bags of groceries and bated breaths behind their masks. Only a few shops were open and people stood inside the white circles painted on the ground, waiting to be served. The alleys felt deserted with nothing but an eerie silence.

After getting my feet wet I went outside on different occasions just to see if anything had changed. I saw a few people feeding stray dogs, a police officer buying a snack for a homeless person among other things that warmed my heart. Times like these brought out the best in people. My trips went further and further to places I had never even seen before. I don't know what I was looking for but I did feel that there was something waiting there somewhere.

One such 'trip' led me to a very powerful and personal experience. It was a hot day with beautiful weather, a rather rare event here. The pleasant heat of the sun was just right and my plain old walking had a merry step to it. The clear sky gave a true sense of scale of the hills across the horizon. With no particular destination in mind I felt quite satisfied just looking at the view. However I decided to keep walking. I reached the heart of town and was quite surprised to see people walking around just like me. The town was still the same uninteresting place it has always been. Maybe if it was deserted I would have liked to see it nevertheless I kept walking. I felt quite spent and decided to find a nice place to rest. I found a fluffy grass patch surrounded by tea bushes. There were tiny white flowers growing from the patches of grass like little pearls on plush velvet. It was still early in the afternoon and the abundant sunshine warmed my bones. Rows of bushes on the gentle slopes rustled in the cool afternoon breeze. I could see a few small clouds distinctly against the deep blue sky converge with the hills in the horizon. For a while I could do nothing but let the waves of emotion wash over my conscience. Everything just felt right, the warmth, the colour of the sky, the shade of the leaves on the bushes, everything. It was sublime. I felt completely consumed by the beauty of it all. It was the perfect case of being at the right place at the right time. Feeling satisfied after savouring it all I got up to leave with a silly grin on my face. I knew I would think about this day for years to come. Thinking on it now I see this famous quote in a new light - *"If you don't know where you're going any road will lead you there"* – Lewis Carroll.

Tenzin Gyacho
Class 12 'Science'

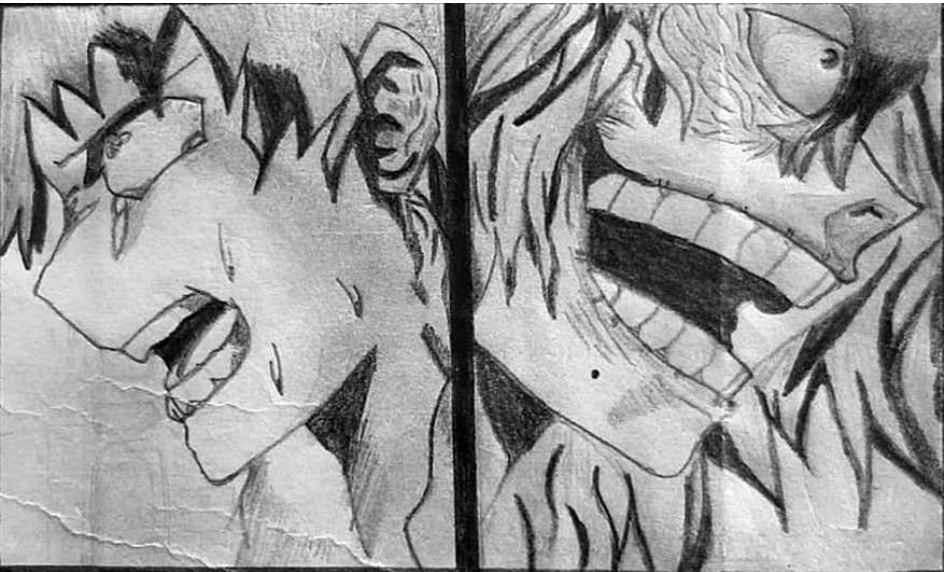
A Trip Down the Memory Lane

There is this cheap pub that sits in the back corner towards the end lane of Cerebellum Street. It's quite difficult to come across. You have to walk past the two looming towers called Frontal Lobe and Temporal Lobe. There are no street lights. So you have to believe your gut and keep walking straight. Viola!!! There it stands as a silhouette against the gooey filth that surrounds the tissue coloured building. The name is written in neon sign with only few letters being properly lit. The door sign reads- Anybody who cares can enter. They don't have much of a menu. The green board hangs next to the window spelling out some Alternate Pop band playing again. I always stumble in tipsy. It's become more of a ritual now. I look around and see people who I think I know. Somedays I swear the woman in flannel shirt and blue jeans is my kindergarten teacher. The bartender is a guileful rogue. He always hands me the wrong drink. I sulk in the half empty glass of Regrets Gin knowing I had specifically asked for LSD Whiskey. "One day I will get you slacked Consciousness." The man's comeback is, "Only if you live long enough sober mate." Next moments are filled with ghosts or people I don't know. They all feel the same to me. All I can recall is Consciousness holding the door for me on my way out. Swaying in my walk I look up and then question him confused, "What's the name of the bar? I can't spell it out". "Memories" he chuckles.

Sarjeus Lakra
ISC 2020



YOSANG LAMA
Class 7 D



ABHINAV THIAPA
Class 8 C

I rest my crossed arms on the window frame,
Seeing the bright moonlight, I ask you again,
Is there a point in my life where happiness awaits?
Every night the cold breeze accompanies my cold heart,
It tells me to smile just like the crescent moon few nights back,
Even the moon is cold but is it sad all the time?
And how can the moon be sad when love was compared to the moon,
My empty verses filled with emotion of tears,
Can someday someone understand my fears,
With empty poems and broken words,
And few lines to rhyme and others to be a prose,
I try to share the pain and emotion that I bear,
The light of hope I guess has lost its path in this unending run of darkness,
The darkness without which the light doesn't prosper.

Ashad Ansari
ISC 2020



VIVAAN SHUKLA
Class 8 B



ABHISEK AGARWAL
Class 6 D



ISANT GURUNG
Class 6 B



HANGSEWARAI
Class 6 B



VIVAAN MUKHIA
Class 4 A



ANANTA PRADHAN
Class 4 A



SAMTEN TOPGAY SHERPA
Class 6 B



RIAN TAMANG
Class 3 A

Art Competition Winners!

CLASS 3
Theme

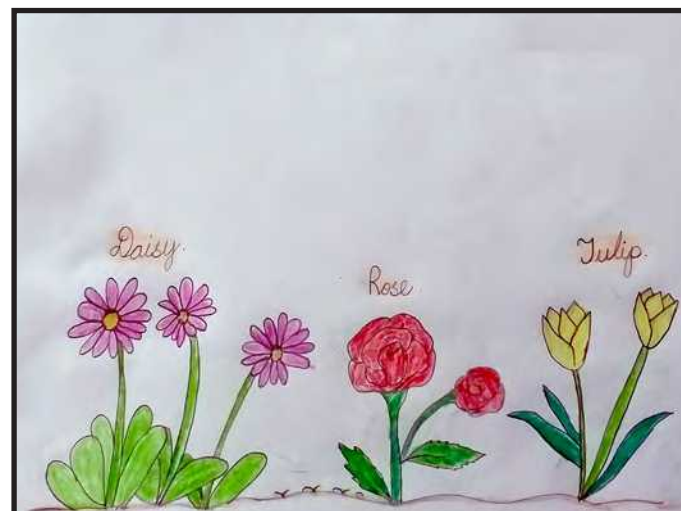
Flowers Around You



GYALSTEN T. YOLMO
CLASS 3 C



LEKMYEN SHERPA
CLASS 3 A



JOEL MOTHAY
CLASS 3 C

CLASS 4
Theme

Marine Life



RAJDEEP SARKAR
CLASS 4 A



PAULSANG TAMANG
CLASS 4 A



VORACHAI SAWANGSIRITIP
CLASS 4 B

CLASS 5
Theme

A View from my Window

**ANUZ
BHUIEL**

CLASS
5 B



**AGASTYA
PAREEK**

CLASS
5 C



**TANAY
KESHRI**

CLASS
5 C



**HARDIL
AGARWAL**

CLASS
5 C





**“Let your life lightly dance
on the edges of time like
dew on the tip of a leaf.”**

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

REMEMBERING A BARD ON RABINDRA JAYANTI

WRITTEN BY
MAHIN E ALAM

Ravi Shankar, the great musician, in his book *Raga Mala* argued that had Rabindranath Tagore been born in the West he would now be as revered as Shakespeare or Goethe. Although the excitement that Tagore’s writings created in the early years of the twentieth century has largely vanished, Tagore has been and remains an exceptional literary figure to the Bengali public. His poems, songs, novels, short stories, critical essays, and other writings to this day continue to hold an integral position in the annals of Bengali literature and uphold a special place in the hearts of the Bengali people – both in India and in Bangladesh. His love for the people and his country resonated through his works vividly, giving voice to the Bengali nationalist movement and ultimately making him the ambassador of Indian culture around the world.

Rabindranath Tagore was born in Calcutta on the 8th of May, 1861 in a family of socio-cultural leaders, great thinkers and reformers, and intellectuals. His father was Maharishi Devendranath and mother Sharda Devi. He began to write at a very young age. He was very wise and energetic and through the multitude of his works, he spread love and harmony among the people and revived their mental and moral spirit. He lamented over the condition India was at the time, hopeless and dead at the hands of its foreign oppressors. His national sentiments and patriotism were of the highest order and he continued to fight for his motherland till the very end of his life. Most noteworthy was the renunciation of his knighthood in light of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919. In a letter to the Viceroy, he wrote, “*The time has come when pledges of honour make our shame glaring in their incongruous context of humiliation and I, for my part, wish to stand shorn of all special distinctions, by the side of my countrymen, who for their so-called insignificance are liable to suffer degradation not fit for human beings.*”

He wrote most of his works at Shantiniketan where he eventually founded a university. His most notable work *Gitanjali*, which was a collection of some of his most beautiful lyrical poems, earned him the prestigious Nobel Prize in Literature on the 13th of November, 1913, making him the first Indian and first Asian recipient of this accolade. His other notable works include *Chokher Bali* (*A Grain of Sand*), *The Postmaster*, *Gora*, *Kabuliwala*, *Sadhana: The Realization of Life*, *Shesher Kabita* (*The Last Poem*), *Ghare Baire* (*The Home and the*

World) and *Nastanirh* (*The Broken Nest*). He was certainly not short on songs. Tagore is reputed to have composed over 2000 songs, all of which comprise what is called Rabindra Sangeet. His songs, like his other works, reflect the different aspects of Indian culture and society. Both India and Bangladesh have adopted his songs – *Jana Gana Mana* and *Amar Shonar Bangla* – as their national anthems.








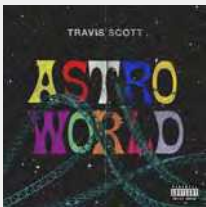












Unlikely as it may seem, Tagore had a special bonding with Darjeeling hills and frequently visited places like Mungpoo, Kalimpong and Kurseong besides staying in Darjeeling. It is said that he penned one of his most finest plays titled ‘*Muktadhara*’ (*Free Current*) inspired by the cascading waters of Pagla Jhora, a stream near Kurseong. In Darjeeling, the Casselton, which is now a hostel for the students of the Darjeeling Government College, was booked for Tagore at the monthly rent of ₹243. He is also said to have composed many of his poems there. In the final years of his life, between 1938 and 1940, Tagore frequently stayed in Mungpoo at the residence of his protégé, Maitreyi Devi, who herself is a renowned poet and novelist. The bungalow was later on converted into Rabindra Bhavan, a museum housing Tagore’s photographs, paintings, writings and many of his memoirs.

This voice and song of humanity, a great son of India, a great bard and lover of nature died in Kolkata on the 7th of August, 1941. It is in the honour of this legend that the Bengali people all around the world celebrate Rabindra Jayanti on Pochishe Boishakh (পঁচিশে বৈশাখ), the 25th day of the first Bengali month of Boishakh. It is celebrated with numerous cultural programmes, singing of his songs and recitation of his poems and writings – a tribute to the Kabi Guru. On this day we remember him for his sacrifices, his contributions and his legacy – a legacy that continues to be the core of our Bengali culture. Tagore can be summed up in the words of Shelley: “*A poet participates in the eternal, the infinite and the one. It is impossible to read the composition of the most celebrated writers of the present day without being startled by the electric life which burns in their work. Poets are the hieroglyphs of an unapprehended inspiration—the unacknowledged legislators of the world.*”



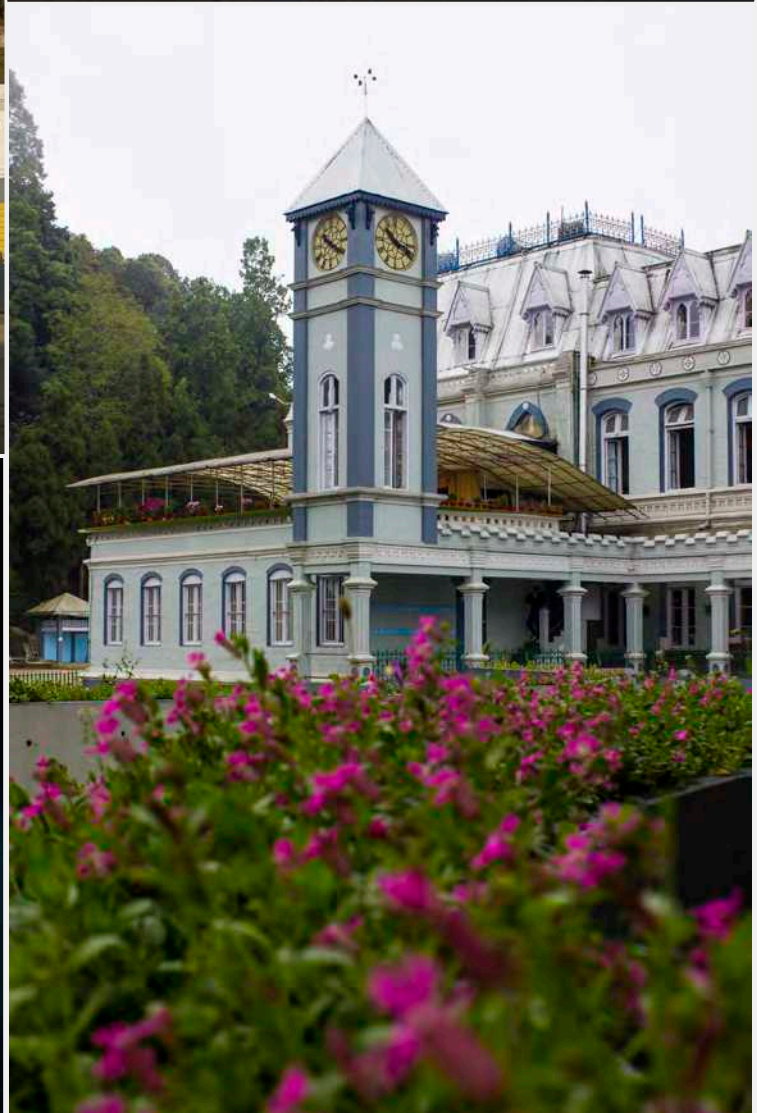
COMPILED BY: Tshering Norbu Bhutia
CONTRIBUTORS: Tenzing Trinlay Bhutia, Bipashwee Lama,
Uddhav Rai, Norbu Wangyal, Piyush Ghimiray

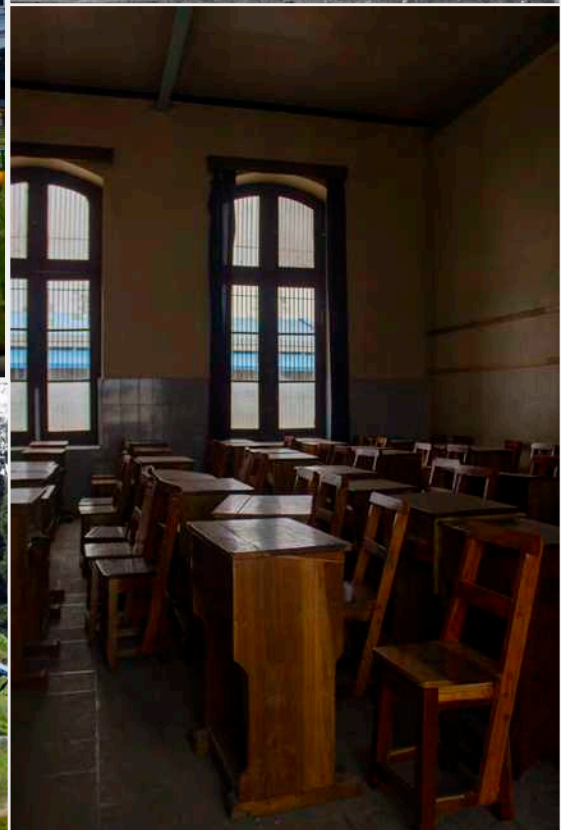
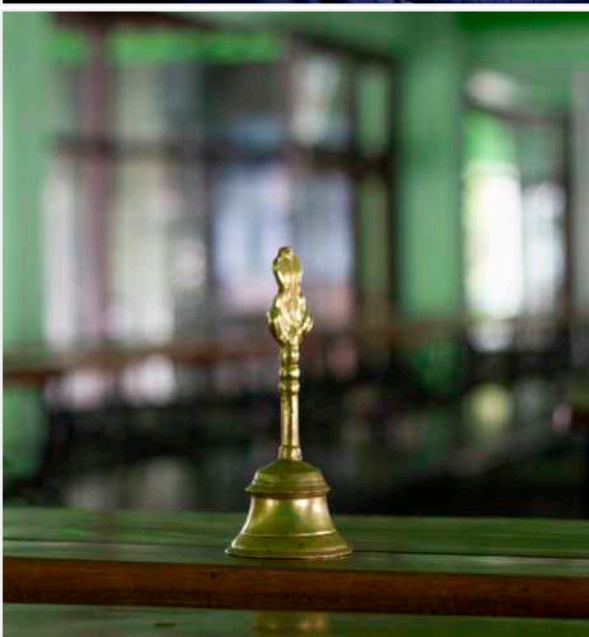
Our everyday life is infused with musical terms: we resonate with people, things strike a chord, we feel upbeat or downbeat. Truth be told, humans cannot live without music in their lives. A life without music in it is like a cake without sugar and icing. With that being said, music does not really need an introduction. All you need to do is listen to it, and find your taste. *Here is a list of 20 albums handpicked by the students for the students.*

1		AMERICAN FOOTBALL <i>Artist - American Football</i>	11		THE 1975 <i>Artist - The 1975</i>
2		IGOR <i>Artist - Tyler the Creator</i>	12		THE FALLING MAN <i>Artist - Duckwrth</i>
3		SWIMMING <i>Artist - Mac Miller</i>	13		CLEOPATRA <i>Artist -The Lumineers</i>
4		LOVE IS NOT DYING <i>Artist - Jeremy Zucker</i>	14		ASTRO WORLD <i>Artist - Travis Scott</i>
5		HEAD IN THE CLOUDS <i>Artist - 88rising</i>	15		LYRICS TO GO VOL. 1 <i>Artist - Kota The Friend</i>
6		CIRCLES <i>Artist - Mac Miller</i>	16		CROSSROAD <i>Artist - Bon Jovi</i>
7		AFTER HOURS <i>Artist - The Weeknd</i>	17		AMERICAN IDIOT <i>Artist - Green Day</i>
8		HOPELESS FOUNTAIN KINGDOM <i>Artist - Halsey</i>	18		MY DEAR MELANCHOLY <i>Artist - The Weeknd</i>
9		MY BEAUTIFUL DARK TWISTED FANTASY <i>Artist - Kanye West</i>	19		BLOND <i>Artist - Frank Ocean</i>
10		BALLADS 1 <i>Artist - Joji</i>	20		4 YOUR EYEZ ONLY <i>Artist - J Cole</i>

NP under lockdown

PHOTO CREDIT
MR JULIUS SANTIAGO





LOCKDOWN BOOKLIST

compiled by Samdup Dorji Lama (I.S.C. 2020)

In the midst of this unprecedented adversity, solidarity and resilience remains the need of the hour. One of the key ways of observing the aforementioned conditions is to adhere to the ‘lockdown’ measures and while we are at it, why not utilize the time we have in hand. Further, what better means to do so then by picking up a book and letting out that voracious reader hidden within you. Hence, here are some suggestions to give you a head start:

FICTION

1. *The Namesake* - Jhumpa Lahiri: The first of Jhumpa Lahiri’s novels, this tale of an Indian family torn between retaining their ‘desi’ connection and adjusting to their new life in suburban America is surely worth a read. It eloquently depicts the journey of a man in search of his identity only to realize that he had been running away from it the whole time.

2. *The Fault in Our Stars* - John Green: An insightful novel that explores the notion of living life to the fullest. It is the story of cancer-ridden girl, Hazel, whose life takes a unexpected turn when she meets Augustus Waters at her Cancer Kid Support Group. Surely a great read for the romantics among us!

3. *The Glass Palace* - Amitav Ghosh: The ‘Glass Palace’ is a poignant and spectacular multi-generational saga that encompasses the fall of empires, the struggle for freedom and the horrors of war in our beloved subcontinent. It all begins with a stateless orphan, Rajkumar, who falls in love with Dolly, a royal chambermaid, while toiling in Mandalay. Then enfolds what is truly a monumental and magnificent epic.

4. *Jonathan Livingston Seagull* - Richard Bach: This novella by Bach (no, not the composer) revolves around a seagull who detests mediocrity and aims at attaining the highest echelon of accomplishment in flight. It is a story of self-belief and self determination that is inspirational to the core.

5. *The Great Gatsby* - F. Scott Fitzgerald: One of the finest works by Fitzgerald, ‘The Great Gatsby’ is undoubtedly a true American Classic. Set during the Roaring Twenties in glamorous New York City, the novel primarily focuses on the romance between Jay Gatsby and Daisy Buchanan and the impediments they face in their affair. However, the novel is much more than a simple love story. It is also a reflection on the hollowness of a life which is filled with over –indulgence and debauchery.

NON-FICTION

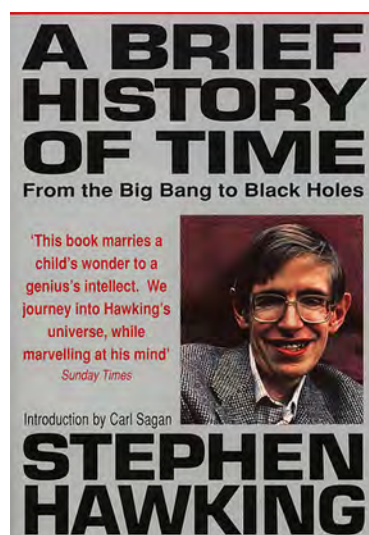
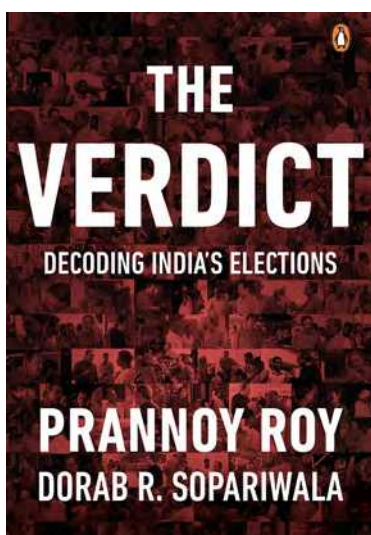
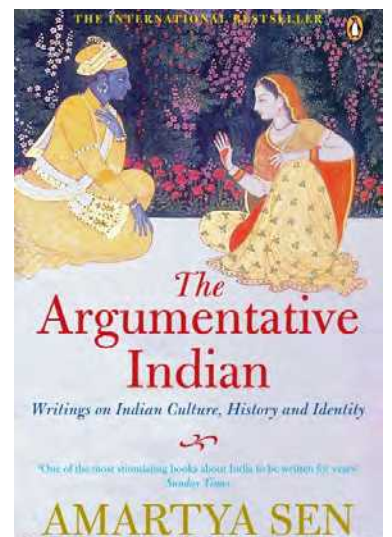
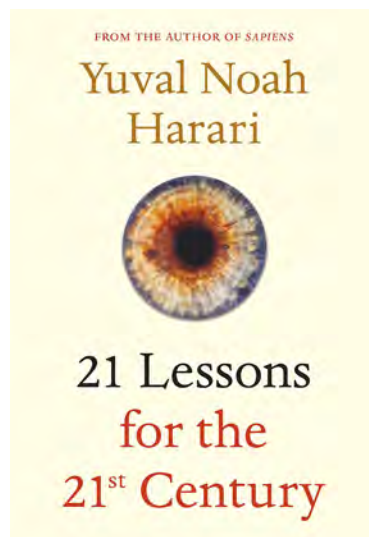
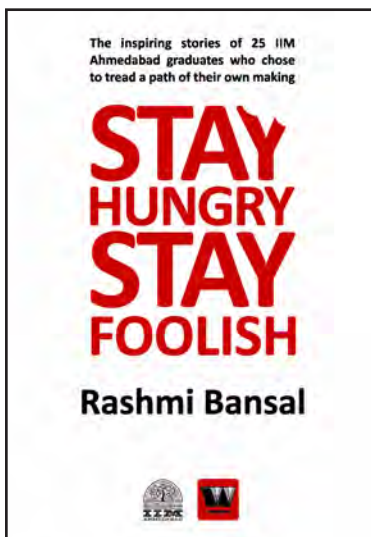
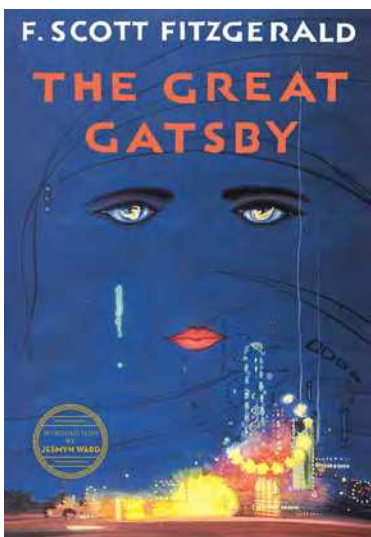
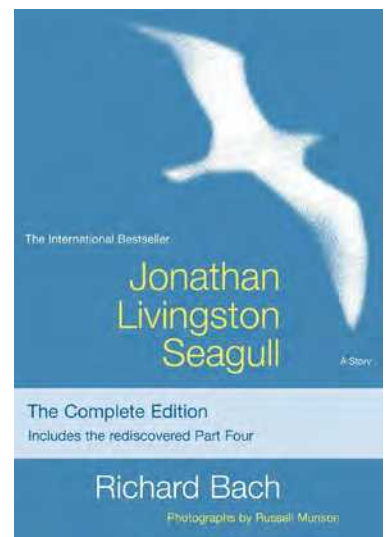
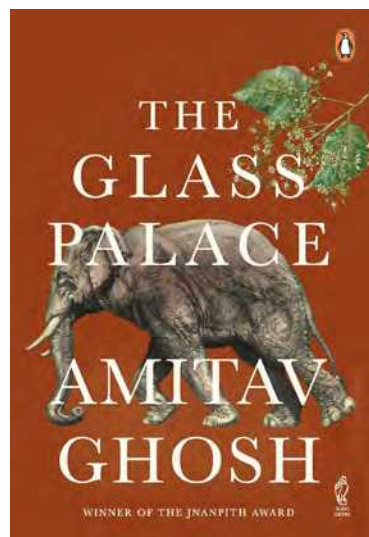
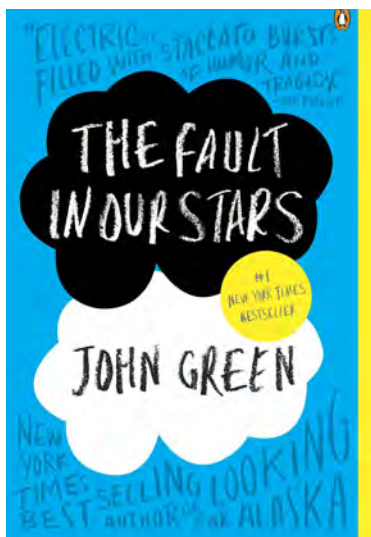
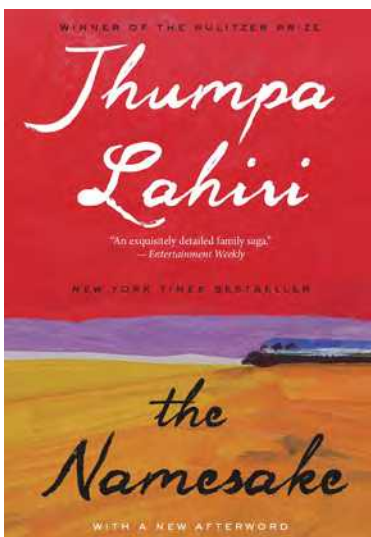
1. *Stay Hungry Stay Foolish* - Rashmi Bansal: The book narrates the fascinating stories of 25 IIM Ahmedabad graduates who went on to become trailblazers in their respective domains. Though they took different paths to success, the one thing that bound them was their belief in the power of their dreams. This book will surely appeal to the entrepreneur in you!

2. *21 Lessons for the 21st Century* - Yuval Noah Harari: An insightful offering by Harari aims to address some of the most urgent questions concerning today’s global agenda such as the advent of populism, the Trump phenomenon and even the fate of the planet itself. Harari has aimed at providing some clarity on these issues and to engage the readers in a discussion regarding the future of our species.

3. *The Argumentative Indian* - Amartya Sen: A must-read for all Indians and ‘Indophiles’, the book discusses the long pioneering tradition of debate and deliberation that is a distinguishing feature of our Indian identity. It has highlighted a ‘kaleidoscope of ideas and subjects’ dealing with the idea of India.

4. *The Verdict* - Prannoy Roy and Dorab R. Sopariwala: This is a book that will enthrall those who have a keen interest in all things political. Two of the sharpest psephological minds of India collaborated to produce this brilliant work on ‘The Great Indian Elections’. Packed with a load of detailed statistics and complimented by a lucid explanation, this book explores various aspects of the largest electoral democracy in the world.

5. *A Brief History of Time* - Stephen Hawking: A New York Times Bestseller, ‘A Brief History of Time’ dwelves into our understanding of the universe and tries to explain where we came from and where we are headed. Written in a clear and accessible style, the book can be enjoyed by even readers with no prior knowledge of the subject. It is truly a masterpiece by one of the brightest minds of the 20th Century.





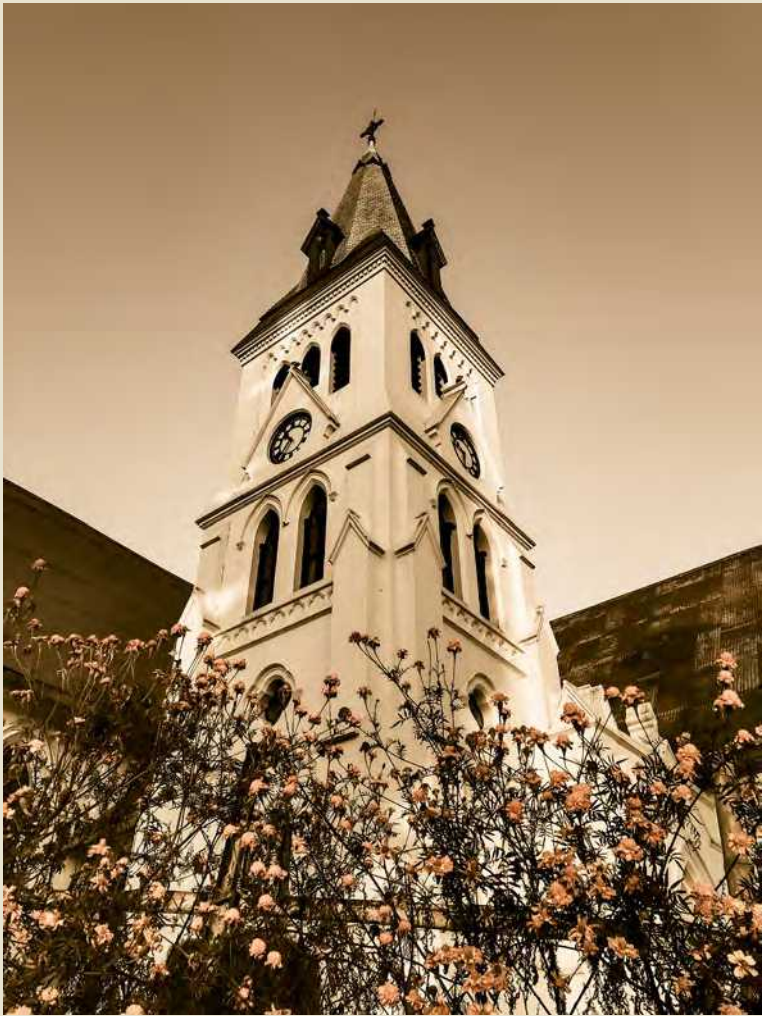
HRISHIKESH RAI | I.S.C. 2020



PICTURESQUE



ISHAAN MAITY | 4 'A'



NEHAL SYANGDEN | I.S.C. 2020



PRAVEK P. SITLING | 12 'ARTS'



ADITYA NARAYAN BHANDARI | 10 'A'

TENZING NORSANG | 12 'ARTS'



MIGMAR DORJEE TAMANG | 9 'D'



BHAGYODAYA RAI | 10 'A'



RIRESH GURUNG | 8 'D'



KESHAB GHIMIRAY | 10 'A'

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
and
'UTILITY FROM WASTE' CRAFTING COMPETITION
for
CLASSES 6 TO 12

SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO
08.05.2020



A CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Share your talents and submit your creative prose. The works of the winners will be published in THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY.
The competition is open to students from classes 6 to 12.
You are to write on the following topics only in not more than 500 words

CLASS 6
"Living Life Indoors"

CLASS 7
"An Unforgettable Dream"

CLASS 8
You are in a lockdown. Describe all the things that you miss about school. You may include humorous incidents.

CLASS 9
"Learning the Silver Lining in the Present Scenario"

CLASS 10
Write a Short Story beginning with the line: "The man in the tower took aim and fired...."

CLASS 12
Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?

All entries are to be TYPED IN MICROSOFT WORD and submitted VIA E-MAIL to the following teachers:

CLASS 6 - **Mrs Anupama Roberts** (anupamathapadari@gmail.com)
CLASS 7 - **Mr Francis Vairung** (francisvairung@gmail.com)
CLASS 8 - **Mr Sajid Ahmed** (sajidmay@gmail.com)
CLASS 9 - **Mr Richard Pakhrin** (richardpakhrin2717@yahoo.com)
CLASS 10 - **Mr Julius Santiago** (edmunddarj20@yahoo.com)
CLASS 12 - **Mr Andre LeFevre** (lefevreandree2020@gmail.com)
Submission deadline - 01.05.2020 (FRIDAY)



THE
NORTH POINT
WEEKLY



UTILITY FROM WASTE

A CRAFTING COMPETITION

To participate in this competition, collect any waste materials available at home and put it all together to create something useful. Then send in pictures of your handiwork, along with a short description of its use and the materials required to craft it.

The handiwork of the winners from each class will be published in
THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY

Please send picture of your handiwork to the following e-mail ids

CLASS 6 - **Ms Catherine C Touthang** (kakaneng22@gmail.com)
CLASS 7 - **Mrs Jiwan K Gurung** (jiwangurung154@gmail.com)
CLASS 8 - **Mrs Anupama Roberts** (anupamathapadari@gmail.com)
CLASS 9 - **Mr Nayandra Lama** (nayandralama1@gmail.com)
CLASS 10 - **Mr Alen Lepcha** (alen.lepcha@gmail.com)
CLASS 12 - **Mr D N Pradhan** (deanpradhan@yahoo.co.in)
Submission deadline - 01.05.2020 (FRIDAY)



THE
NORTH POINT
WEEKLY



FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

FOR

PRIMARY DIVISION STUDENTS

THEME :-
Dress up as your favourite Superhero, someone that you think can save our world from the plight of the current Corona Virus Pandemic. You can use your imagination and think and create a method or means that you will use to cure the world of the corona virus. Have fun and enjoy yourselves!

CRITERIA OF ASSESSMENT :-
Preference will be given for creative use of material available at home at this time of lockdown. Perhaps, with a zero budget investment. You can use makeup, accessories, weapons etc.

All entries must be sent to our judges at both their email addresses.
Miss Anjali Subba: anjalisubba.comp@gmail.com
Miss Prasanna Rai: prashannarai4b@gmail.com

Interesting entries will be published in the North Point Weekly Newsletter

Submission deadline - 08.05.2020 (FRIDAY)



THE
NORTH POINT
WEEKLY

FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

for
CLASSES 3 TO 5
(PRIMARY DIVISION)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
08.05.2020



compiled by Mr Noel Rai

We present to you a set of thrilling questions to rattle your brains and awaken the curiosity in you.

For this issue we have something special for you - all questions are North Point related.

*Answers will be given in the next issue
Happy quizzing!*

- 1.** Name the British Viceroy of India who visited North Point in February 1892.
- 2.** What was begun in North Point at the end of 1895 - it still continues.
- 3.** India's famous jazz musician Louis Banks is a North Pointer - what is his real name?
- 4.** This annual school award was begun from 1977 - what was this?
- 5.** Who was the first Indian Jesuit priest to be appointed the Rector of the school?
- 6.** It was 'Sapana Ko Katha' on 12th October 2014 in the school JMJ Auditorium - what was the occasion?
- 7.** Which famous Shakespearean play was staged in school in 1964 to mark the 400th birth anniversary of the bard?
- 8.** What is the contribution of Fr. Vincent Nash and Fr. Peter Hipp to North Point?
- 9.** Which world famous play was performed by North Point in Thimphu, Bhutan in 2008 on the occasion of the coronation of the present monarch Jigmi Khesar Namgyel?
- 10.** North Point celebrated its 125 years in 2013 - who inaugurated the year long programme?
- 11.** Name the first lady teacher to join North Point – this was in 1948.
- 12.** What is the significance of 16th November and 13th December 1888 in the history of North Point?

Answers to Issue 3 questions: -

1. Mona Lisa - Leonardo da Vinci, **2.** American Gothic - Grant Wood, **3.** The Scream - Edvard Munch, **4.** The Night Watch - Rembrandt, **5.** Bal du moulin de la Gallette - Pierre Renoir, **6.** Las Meninas - Diego Velazquez, **7.** The Starry Night - Vincent van Gogh, **8.** Girl with a Pearl Earring - Johannes Vermeer.

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Please also visit our official school website for more updates at

www.sjcnorthpoint.com

