



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com

TODAY'S EDITION

With safari season in full swing, get acquainted with some wildlife lingo in 'Steam-Environment' **PAGE 2**



How does illegal wildlife trade impact local biodiversity. Express your views in 'Skill Sift' **PAGE 4**



Do you know how the idiom 'Chip off the Old Block' came about? Find out in 'Wizard's Corner' **PAGE 5**

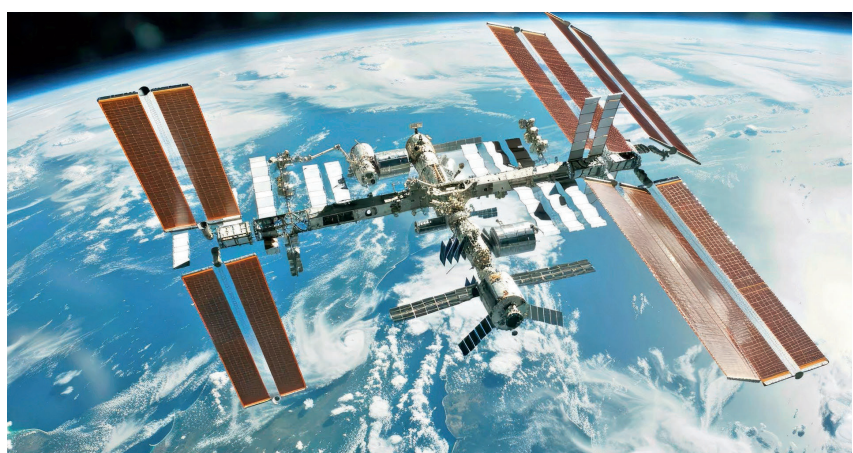


STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024

Guest Edition BANGALURU

Nasa on high alert as ISS leak worsens



QUIZ YOURSELF

The ISS is managed by ----

Answer: Nasa, Roscosmos, the Esa (Canadian Space Agency), Jaxa (Japanese Space Agency), and the Esa (European Space Agency).

ISS will retire by -----

Answer: 2030. Russia will, however, disassociate by 2028

Zvezda module provides power, life support, docking ports for progress cargo modules and Soyuz spacecraft, sewage processing, and is the primary source for the ISS's propulsion systems

The International Space Station (ISS) has long been a symbol of international collaboration and scientific achievement, but it now faces a critical challenge. A leak aboard the station, first detected in 2019, has worsened over time, raising concerns about the safety of the crew and the station's long-term stability. According to reports, Nasa has warned of "catastrophic failure" if the persistent leak of air and pressure from a section of the Russian-controlled International Space Station is not controlled.

X-PLAINED: THE ISS LEAK

WHERE'S THE LEAK?

The leak has been found in a section of the ISS controlled by Russia, specifically from a tunnel that connects the Zvezda module to a docking port, which welcomes spacecraft that carry cargo and supplies. As of April 2024, the air is escaping at a rate of 1.7 kilograms per day, which, though seemingly small, could accumulate over time and put the crew's safety at risk.

WHY NASA AND ROSCOSMOS ARE AT LOGGERHEADS

Nasa has raised alarms about the structural integrity of the affected module, fearing that if left unaddressed, the situation could lead to a catastrophic failure. In contrast, Russian officials, including engineers from Roscosmos, argue that the risk of such a catastrophic event is unlikely, insisting that the situation is under control and can be managed without significant danger.

Nasa and Russia's Roscosmos, responsible for the section where the leak originates, are at odds over the cause and severity of the issue. While both agencies are working together to address the problem, differences in their assessments have led to tension, with the urgency to resolve the situation growing each day.

Weighed by storms of life but lifted by management techniques

Students today face unique challenges. Understanding these challenges and equipping them with skills like resilience, stress management can empower them to navigate the storms of life.

With the continuous rise in academic standards, students are under immense pressure to excel. This competitive environment has led to stress, anxiety, and ultimately, burnout.



Photo: Syed Asif

This edition of The Times of India is a special issue exclusively edited by principal Monica Anthony and team St Germain High School, B'uru, to bring you a feel of what a youth newspaper should be like. We invited them to visit our premises, write and edit articles and opinions.

Principal Guest Editor
Monica Anthony,
Principal, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

Time-management, mindfulness and relaxation techniques, provide emotional and academic support to students. Mental health struggles, including depression, anxiety, and feelings of isolation, have become more prevalent among students. These

challenges are often exacerbated by academic stress, social media, and external expectations.

Many schools provide counseling and mental health services. Taking advantage of these resources can help students navigate tough emotions. Staying connected, building a support system of friends, family, or mentors can combat loneliness and provide a safety net during difficult

times. Engaging in hobbies, physical activity or relaxation techniques helps in maintaining a balanced life.

While technology has revolutionized education, it also serves as a major distraction. Social media, video games, and constant notifications can make it difficult for students to concentrate on their studies. Providing digital discipline sessions can help maintain focus.

The challenges faced by modern students are diverse and complex, but they are not insurmountable. By cultivating resilience, seeking support, and using effective strategies, students can successfully weather these storms and thrive academically and personally. Every school must build character and confidence to help them stay focused on their academic journey.

PM Modi receives Nigeria's national award



News @ A Glance

Nigeria on Sunday conferred its national award – the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger – on Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his statesmanship and stellar contribution to fostering bilateral ties, making him the second foreign dignitary to receive the distinction. Nigerian President Bola Tinubu honoured PM Modi after their bilateral meeting held at

Queen Elizabeth is the only foreign personality to have received this award in 1969.

Abuja's Aso Rock Villa which serves as the office and residence of the Nigerian Presidency. This was the 17th such international award conferred on Modi by a country.



The Context: In a significant move, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) confirmed recently that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has expressed its

The Big Q

Is it a good idea to mix politics with sports?

unwillingness to send its team to Pakistan for the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy due to security and diplomatic concerns. India's refusal to travel to Pak for the Champions Trophy next year may trigger a strong response from the Pakistan government that may ask its cricket board to withdraw from the tournament, claim reports...

Sports and cultural activities are a medium of building harmony. Sports diplomacy, especially cricket diplomacy, has paid off in the past and in fact, has been used to give peace a chance. Moreover, I feel banning Indians from travelling to Pakistan hasn't solved any purpose—Indian team hasn't travelled to Pakistan for a cricket series since 2008 but cross border terrorism still continues. Sports should be kept away from politics.



GIRIJESH TRIPATHI, class XII, Siddhant World School, Lucknow



TANISHQ KAPOOR, class X, DC Model Sr Sec School, Panchkula

NO

Sports should remain separate from politics, as its primary purpose is to unite people and promote fair play. Using sports as a tool for political disputes only deepens the tensions and undermines the true spirit of competition. Instead of leveraging these events for political gain, nations should focus on resolving their issues diplomatically, allowing sports to serve as a bridge rather than a battleground.



P ADHRIT PRATIM, class X, The Creek Planet School Venus Campus, Hyderabad

Well, in a country where cricket flows in the veins of almost every Indian, it becomes difficult to keep it away from politics. Therefore, the tensions between both the countries reflect in other sectors and it's not absurd. Moreover, blocking sporting ties due to tensions is nothing new and is practised by other nations as well.

FATEMA SHAFI, class XII, Jewish Girls' School, Kolkata



Would you wish to keep any kind of ties with a truant peer or a neighbour? Pakistan is a rogue country. I feel it's a wise decision by the BCCI to not allow its players to Pakistan amid political conflicts between the two countries. A perpetrator of terrorism, Islamabad has been responsible for cross border activities that has killed many of our soldiers. I strongly feel while our jaws are protecting us from the attacks on the border, it doesn't make sense to keep any relation with that country, leave aside cricket.

SIDDHI PILLAI, class IX, DAV Public School, Thane



Of course, sports and politics should intertwine when it involves national pride and security. Moreover, it's government's decision not to send our players there and BCCI abided by the govt's decision. In times of increased tension between nations, as in the case of India and Pakistan, such decisions display stern opinion. Loyalty toward one's nation is paramount; after all, sports should not be played at the expense of national pride.

JAIVAL UPADHYAY, class X, SGVP International School, Ahmedabad

FACT CHECK

- India has not sent its cricket team to Pakistan since 2008.
- While Pakistan has toured India for various international tournaments, including a bilateral series in 2012-13, the 2016 T20 World Cup, and the 2023 ICC Cricket World Cup, the two nations have not played a full series since the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai.



Tracking wildlife words

From 'golden hour' lighting to 'tracking' pugmarks, learning wildlife lingo can deepen your connection with nature and help you appreciate the wonders of the wild

Head into the wilderness this season? Picture this: you're on a trail, surrounded by the sounds and sights of nature, and your guide points out an animal behaviour or lighting condition you weren't expecting. All this usually happens in a split second, especially when it comes to wildlife. Sometimes it's an observation your fellow traveller has made, maybe it's an animal behaviour or that perfect moment for photography. But then, you took your time to understand what was said and now the moment is gone.

INTO THE WILD

With a solid grasp over wilderness lingo, you'll be able to connect more deeply with the landscape and its creatures. Whether you're hoping to spot a rare species, capture that perfect sunrise, or understand the fascinating ways animals communicate.

THINKING CAP

What does a Sambar deer's call twice in succession confirm when you are deep in a jungle?

SAFARI SEASON

Having the right vocabulary enhances each moment, giving you an insight into the hidden rhythms of the wild. Here are some terms you could familiarise yourself with:

1 GOLDEN HOUR: Every wildlife photographer's dream! Golden hour refers to the hour just after sunrise and just before sunset. It's that time when the soft, warm lighting occurs. It's the best time to capture animals in their natural habitats, as the light adds a stunning glow to the scenery.

2 ALARM CALL: When in the jungle, when you hear a predator call, it's the sound an animal makes to alert others of the presence of a predator nearby. This sound is often made by a prey animal, like a deer or monkey.

3 FLEHMEN RESPONSE: Ever seen a tiger or a deer curl its lip in a strange way after sniffing something? This is called the Flehmen response, where animals lift their lips to expose scent-sensitive organs. This helps them assess scents, often related

WHAT ARE DIURNAL ANIMALS? Animals that are active during the day. Many animals in the wild, like deer, monkeys, and various birds, fall into this category. Understanding when animals are most active can help you plan your wildlife outings effectively

to territory or mating.

4 TRACKING: Tracking involves looking for signs like footprints, broken branches, and other clues left by animals. From identifying fresh pugmarks to spotting claw marks on trees, tracking adds an entirely new layer to your wildlife experience.

5 SCAT: Not the most glamorous part of wildlife, but scat, or animal droppings, tells you a lot about the presence and diet of animals in an area. Guides often analyse scat to determine which animals

FOR BIRDWATCHERS

LIFE LIST AND LIFER: A life list is a record of all the bird species a birder has seen, while a lifer is a bird species seen for the very first time by that birder. Both terms reflect the excitement of seeing a new species.

VAGRANT, MIGRANT, AND RESIDENT: Here, they are not used for humans. These terms are essential for birdwatchers. A resident bird lives in the same area year-round, while a migrant travels seasonally. A vagrant, however, is a bird found far from its usual range, often due to storms or unusual weather patterns. Spotting a vagrant is a special treat, as it's often a rare, unexpected sighting.

have recently passed through.

6 SIGHTINGS: Sighting refer to any view of animals in their natural habitat. A great sighting could be a rare leopard lounging on a tree or a herd of elephants bathing in a waterhole, or that tiger you've been dying to see!

7 CORRIDORS: Wildlife corridors are routes that animals use to travel between habitats. In places where human activity has fragmented natural spaces, these corridors are essential for animals to move safely.



GOOD TO KNOW

What is article 6?

For nearly a decade, climate talks have been hashing out so-called Article 6. But what is it?

After nearly a decade of negotiations, leaders during the UN climate conference's first day decided on some of the finer points of the much-debated sticking point aimed at cutting planet-warming emissions from coal, oil and gas. Known as Article 6, it was set up as part of the 2015 Paris Agreement to help nations work together to reduce carbon pollution.



Here's a look at Article 6

WHAT IS IT?

Article 6 first made an appearance at the Paris climate talks in 2015, where world leaders agreed to try to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the pre-industrial levels. Its aim is to outline how countries and companies can trade emissions reductions to remove and stop more carbon pollution. The idea is to set up carbon trading markets, allowing higher polluters to offset some of the pollution

they produce by buying carbon credits from less polluting countries.

HOW IT COULD WORK

Countries could generate carbon credits based on projects aimed to meet their own climate goals, such as protecting existing forests from development or shutting coal-fired plants. Each credit would equal a ton of CO2 or the equivalent of other greenhouse gases that can be reduced in the air, sequestered, or avoided by using green energies.

SCIENCE-TECH

CRITICAL THINKING

Can plants ever eat a human?

Hollywood movies have a way to show how the environment works. Sometimes to draw a picture of reality, but most times exaggerating to leave an impression. For instance, in the classic movie 'Little Shop of Horrors,' a gigantic plant with shark-sized jaws needs human blood to grow. But, what is the reality?

LET'S BUST SOME MYTHS

In reality, plants can't consume humans, at least not in the way we typically think of eating. However, some plants do have extraordinary, predatory habits – these are the carnivorous plants, like the Venus flytrap, pitcher plants,



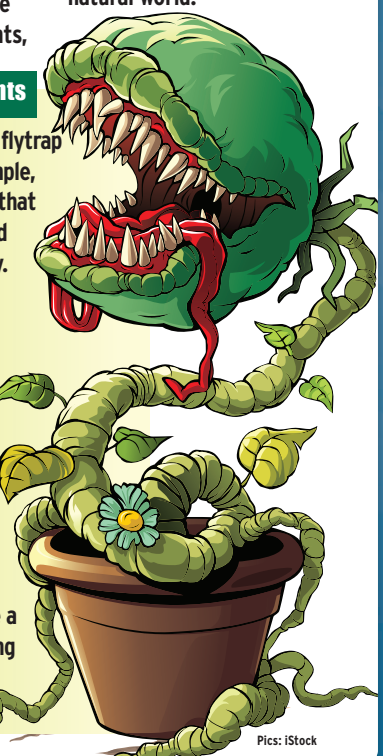
and sundews, which trap and digest small animals, primarily insects. These remarkable species have evolved to thrive in nutrient-poor soils by supplementing their diet with animal matter. Still, despite their ability to capture and break down prey, they are incapable of dealing with anything as large as a human. So while the idea of a man-eating plant is thrilling, it belongs more to the realm of horror stories than to the natural world.

Some Carnivorous plants

SNAP TRAPS: The Venus flytrap is the most famous example, using specialised leaves that snap shut when triggered by the movement of prey.

PITFALL TRAPS: Pitcher plants have tube-shaped leaves filled with digestive enzymes that attract and drown insects, which are then broken down and absorbed by the plant.

STICKY TRAPS: Sundews have glandular hair on their leaves that secrete a sticky substance, trapping small insects, which are then digested.



Do planets hold the key to humanity's survival

EXPLAINED

A team of astronomers have uncovered an Earth-like planet orbiting a star located 4,000 light years away from the Solar System, potentially offering insights into Earth's distant future. The rocky planet, about the same mass as Earth, revolves around a white dwarf in the constellation Sagittarius. The discovery brings a glimmer of hope for Earth's survival when our sun enters its final stages.

What is a white dwarf?

A white dwarf is a star's remnant after it has run out of nuclear fuel and shed its outer layers. It symbolises the sun's eventual fate. The sun will grow into a red giant as its nuclear fuel runs out, then shrink to become a white dwarf. The extent of its expansion will determine which planets in the solar system will be engulfed – Mercury and Venus are likely to be consumed. But what about Earth? In a study published in 'Nature Astronomy',

researchers from the University of California, Berkeley, used the Keck Telescope in Hawaii to observe a system designated KMT-2020-BLG-0414. The system contains a white dwarf star with an Earth-sized planet in an orbit twice as far from the star as Earth is from the sun. Alongside the planet is a brown dwarf – a planet roughly 17 times the mass of Jupiter.

What this discovery suggests: That Earth could potentially avoid being consumed by the expanding sun, opening up possibilities for human migration to the outer solar system, with moons such as Europa, Callisto, and Ganymede around Jupiter, or Enceladus near Saturn, becoming possible havens for future generations.

Could humanity find refuge beyond Earth? Colonising other planets might be the only realistic route to long-term survival. Species compete for habitats and resources, and any species that doesn't play the game will go extinct

THE FINDINGS

This finding supports the theory that as the sun expands into a red giant, its loss of mass will push the planets into more distant orbits. This phenomenon could allow Earth to escape destruc-

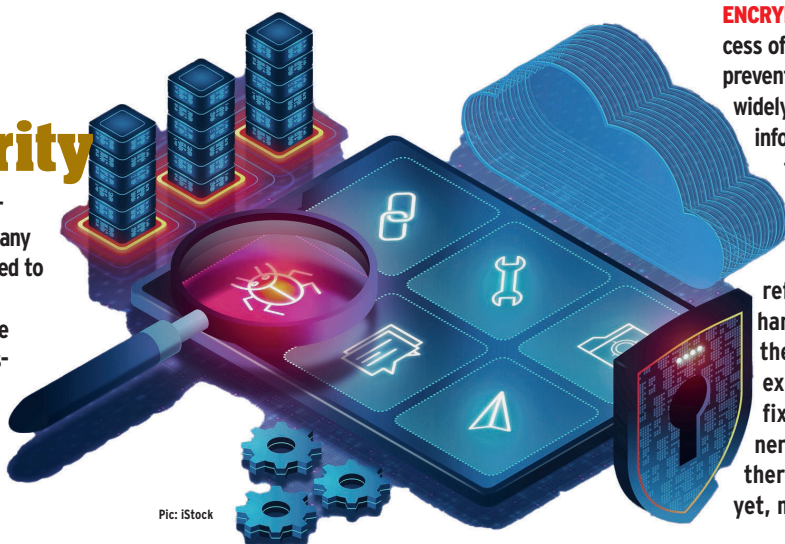
tion. Jessica Lu, an associate professor of astronomy at UC Berkeley, noted, "Whether life can survive on Earth through that (red giant) period is unknown. But certainly, the most important thing is that Earth isn't swallowed by the Sun when it becomes a red giant."

TECHMINOLOGY

Tech terms mostly used in cyber security

FIREWALL: A firewall is a network security system that monitors and controls incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predetermined security rules. It acts as a barrier between a trusted internal network and untrusted external networks, such as the internet, helping to prevent unauthorised access and attacks.

MALWARE: Malware, short for malicious software, refers to any software intentionally designed to cause damage to a computer, server, or network. It can take various forms, including viruses, worms, and spyware, and is typically used to steal data, disrupt operations, or gain unauthorised access to systems.



ENCRYPTION: Encryption is the process of converting data into a code to prevent unauthorised access. It is widely used to protect sensitive information during storage or transmission.

ZERO-DAY VULNERABILITY:

A zero-day vulnerability refers to a flaw in software or hardware that is unknown to the vendor or developer and is exploited by attackers before fix is released. Since the vulnerability is "zero days" old, there are no defenses in place yet, making it a high security risk.

Guest Edition BENGALURU

HONOURING 80 YEARS OF LEGACY

"It is by going into the abyss that we recover the treasures of life. Where you stumble there lays your treasures."

St Germain High School, which recently completed 80 years of existence, is dedicated to providing a value-based academic environment designed to promote the total development of the child. The mission of the school is to provide a holistic education. Our school's Latin motto 'Ad Augusta, Per Augusta', later translated to English 'Triumph Through Trials' has richly guided us in making enormous strides in the



education of a host of Germainites who have passed through the portals of this hallowed institution over these years. The school was christened St Germain High School in 1944 after the much-loved French priest Rev. Fr Saint Germain. The founder

of the school was Most Rev. Dr Thomas Pothacamury. After his death Rev Cyril Brown was appointed the first principal of the school. The next to be principal was the French priest Rev. Fr Roger. The golden era of the school was when the Aranjio brothers guided the school for



23 long years. It was under their leadership the Old Boys Association came into existence in 1949. The four houses, namely Froger, Aranjio, Thomas and Vissac, got its name from principals and priests who were closely connected to St Germain's Boys High School at the time. Soon the school celebrated silver jubilee in 1969 under the able guidance of Rev. Fr. Benito

D'Souza. In 1975 when Rev. Fr. Mervyn Coelho took over as principal, St. Germain High School saw new heights in the sports arena of Bangalore city. Cricketers like Roger Binny, S M H Kirmani, Indian hockey Olympiad Jude Felix, film stars like Sanjay Khan, Feroz Khan, Vinay Rai, the renowned Dr Thomas Chandy and Dr Ranga Naik all hailed from this institution. As the school surged forward, it never lost its tenacity to excel. The school was declared the Best Educational Institution under the dynamic Fr Hilary. The golden jubilee block was constructed by Rev. Fr.

OUR VISION
The vision of St Germain Academy is the development of the child through participation in various value-based activities. St Germain Academy will provide superior academic preparation while promoting ongoing formation and growth of the next generation of leaders. These future leaders will live the values taught here and meet their full potential as global citizens, in preparation for a life of service to humanity and society.

from 2005 to 2011. When Msgr S Jayanathan became director in 2011, he opened the gates of the school to girls. He was also instrumental in starting the nursery section. Under a vivacious and firm disciplinarian Rev. Christopher, director from 2018 to 2023, the school witnessed the platinum jubilee of this great institution. Rev Fr. Rayappa M, the present director has brought new energy to the institution. His extensive experience, simplicity and humility have won the hearts of all. The energy and excitement does not ebb as we look ahead to complete another quarter to become a centenarian!
Mary Aaron, teacher

Henry Menezes in 1990. The Pre-University College was initiated by Rev. Fr. John Rose during his tenure as principle, 2001 to 2005. Fr Jerome Rego was principal

GIVING FINISHING TOUCHES



The editorial team: St Germain High School students Joel Worth, Tharun Nair and Mohammed Aariz Zia of class X and Yusra Khan of class IX with principal Monica Anthony and teacher Mary Aaron hard at work at the Times of India office in Bengaluru.

Young achievers make school proud

Champ in the making

Kris Adric of class VI began karate to develop strength and discipline. After earning the violet belt, he began to dream of winning numerous competitions and earning a black belt. In times of difficulty, he followed Muhammad Ali's advice to "don't quit, suffer now, and live the rest of your life as a champion" because he was dedicated to achieving his dream. He finally accomplished his goal in karate after three years of dedication and effort. He currently holds a black belt. He is aiming to become a karate champion.

Eyes on the goal

Mohammed Sinan of class is an exemplary football player. He was selected to represent a football team in France, where he participated in the Tournoi International tournament. He was able to spearhead his team to the quarter-finals.

Education system must nurture well-rounded individuals

Education is the cornerstone of an individual's growth and success. As said, "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." Today, this young generation seems to have lost sight of this vital truth. They desire success and fulfillment without putting in the necessary effort. The age-old saying, "No pain, no gain," resonates here, achievements are born from dedication and hard work. Children and young adults are found loitering in the streets, working in small shops or parking lots, because they lack proper education. They fail to realize that opportunities have windows that close after a certain stage in life. Time waits for no one. Parents, too, play a pivotal role in this equation. This lack of oversight can be detrimental. Children, sens-

ing this gap, exploit their circumstances, leading to poor performance and a disregard for education. Teachers are regarded as the architects of society. The value of teachers, and the sacrifices they make, must be recognized. As Henry Brooks Adams noted, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." In conclusion, students need to be reminded that the fruits of their labour will only be as sweet as the effort they put in. Parents, too, must take responsibility, ensuring that their children stay on the right path. Together, we can rebuild an education system that nurtures well-rounded, knowledgeable, and morally grounded individuals. Let us strive to make this life worthwhile for the next generation.

Library my favourite haunt

The library has always been my favourite place in the school campus. The school library is a place where my friends and I come to unwind, explore, and think without the pressure of deadlines or noise. It makes me feel like I am stepping into a new world. It offers a world of endless possibilities. Diving into a novel means getting lost in another world. If I pick up a reference book, then I can tackle an upcoming project. We don't get much free time to visit the library on weekdays. But the few times we do, we have the best experience of the day. Whether its research for school or reading for fun, I never feel rushed. The library has also been a solitude for preparing for exams and tests. I have spent countless hours in the library ei-

ther reading or researching. The librarian is not just someone who takes care of the books, but is also a friend. She knows every book by name and number. Every morning, she greets me with a smile and whether I need a recommendation for a project or a novel, she's always there with advice. The library has always been a haven for me. Whenever I need a break or a moment to think, I will always return to the library, my favourite haunt.
Aamina Tabrez Ali Khan, class VIII, St Germain School, Bengaluru



Nostalgia - under the peepal tree

Our batch was the first batch to study in St. Germain from the 1st to the 10th Standard. So I am basically a full bred Germainite. My favourite time while in school was the sweltering lunch break. It was a fairly long break from the stresses of studies and I got to play my favourite game - Cricket. I usually had lunch at the school canteen but occasionally I used to bunk the canteen's lunch, for a friendly home cooked meal from some of my classmates.

Under the majestic Peepal tree at Germain, it was a great place to bond before our all-important cricket matches. Strategies on how to get our arch rival lunchtime cricket team players out were planned here. The wicket was the majestic Peepal tree. A white chalk stolen from class was used for the rough markings of the stumps. It was always a dispute every time it hit

close to the markings of the stumps on the huge bark of the tree. Our classmate Mithun always played in the opposite team and he brought the bat. If he felt things were not going his way, he would say "You are cheating" and walk away with the bat, leaving us high and dry. Then some compromise would be worked out and the game would resume. As the Malay proverb says "A tree with strong roots can withstand storms" and so has my friendship with these lovely Germainite classmates that I made during those lunch breaks under the peepal tree. It has helped me navigate the storms of life. I never realised what a long-standing companion I had throughout my life in the form of this Peepal tree, till my recent visit to the school for the OBA meet. I will remain a Germainite at heart for life!

ALUMNI SPEAK
ANTONY DAVIS,
batch of 2001

ENRICHING PETS DAY ACTIVITY INSTILLS LOVE FOR ANIMALS

On November 15, 2024, the school celebrated the long-awaited Pet Day, an event filled with excitement and learning. Students got the opportunity to bring their beloved pets, share interesting facts, and showcase their presentation skills by speaking about their pets to their classmates. The event was a great success, and both students and staff enjoyed the variety of pets and stories shared. We appreciated the cooperation of the parents in not purchasing new pets specifically for this event, as only household pets were allowed. This helped maintain a familiar and stress-free experience for both the pets and the children. Pet Day was an enriching experience that allowed students to bond over their love for animals, gain confidence in public speaking, and develop an understanding of pet care. It was thanks to the families and staff that this event was a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.



THE STRUGGLING OF A BRAIN

When all the noises of the world
Come to a single halt,
When even the rumbling of clouds
And the clattering of rain
Or the debating of crowds, Or the commotions of pain
Are as soundless as mere philosophies
Of our brains, When the only thing
That's echoing in the horizons
Is the dispute of our brains, When the only thing,
That's interrupting the peace of silence
Is the distress in our veins.
When every man is trying to conquer
His storm of brainwaves
When every man believes, That he is the one in
Charge of these hurricanes, When the only thing that
Matters in the world, Are the feelings of man
When the least, Significant of all
Is to have faith in God's plan,
How I wish to decipher,
Why man has made the world
So problematic for himself,
Oh! How I wish to decipher
Why can't we change the world
For the betterment of ourself
Is it not possible, For us to lower our expectations
Is it really so impossible
For us to accept our anticipations
I believe it's time to let go,
of these self-created responsibilities.
I believe it's time to reconsider,
our actual accountabilities.
After all the only thing,
constant is change.
In this world, which is so exceptionally strange.
ALEENA JAVEDD, class VIII,
St Germain High School, Bengaluru

To sift is to isolate that which is most important after examining it thoroughly. With newsy challenges, writing practice and working on your critical thinking skills, this daily page is here to help you sift and skill

JET, SET, GOAL!

Wield a pencil, sharpen your mind and get cracking. Try this Times NIE worksheet that is set to keep your brain ticking



HOW TO USE THIS PAGE

'Skill Sift' is a page designed to promote the "21st century skills" or the 3Ls:

- Learning Skills: Critical Thinking, Creativity & Innovation, Collaboration, Communication
Literacy Skills: Information Literacy, Media Literacy, Technology Literacy
Life Skills: Flexibility and Adaptability, Leadership and

Responsibility, Initiative and Self-Direction, Productivity & Accountability, Social and Cross-Cultural Interaction

- You can use this page daily to:
1. Enhance critical and creative thinking skills
2. Increase news awareness
3. Start a discussion on important current topics
4. Expand worldviews
5. Improve writing skills
6. Enhance visual thinking

Do give us your feedback and how you found this page useful. Please write to us at toistudent@timesofindia.com

GET THE PICTURE

What do you think is happening?

- 1. With which festival is this picture associated?
2. What does light signify?
3. Can you write a creative story on the festival of light?



ANSWERS: Diwali. Dyaas or lamps are lit during the festival of Diwali to symbolize prosperity in the new year. Light also signifies the triumph of good over evil, and light over darkness.

Compiled Priscilla Pais, teacher, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

WORD OF THE DAY

Expel

/ɪk'spel, ɛk'spel/

This word was in the news recently when both India and Canada expelled their top diplomats.

WHAT IT MEANS:

Officially make someone leave an organization. Force out (something), especially from the body.

USED IN CONTEXT:

Canada expelled India's top diplomat and five others, saying they were part of a vast criminal network. India reciprocated, expelling six Canadian diplomats.

Compiled by Jaden Joseph, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

WRITE SENTENCE HERE

Expelled: _____

YOUR OPINION



File photo of exotic snakes smuggled to Mumbai in 2022

How does illegal wildlife trade impact local biodiversity?

Forty rare and endangered animals, including baby American alligators and a rare Albino bat, were rescued by customs officers at Kempegowda International Airport last week. Based on intelligence and passenger profiling, officials intercepted two travellers attempting to smuggle exotic creatures in trolley bags...

Students, tell us your opinion: Prompts: (Pick any one)

- 1. How does the illegal wildlife trade impact both local and global ecosystems?
2. The smugglers were transporting multiple species together in cramped conditions. Beyond the obvious animal welfare concerns, what potential risks does this pose to public health and biosecurity, especially considering zoonotic diseases?
3. What changes to international and domestic laws would make punishments more effective?
4. How does consumer demand drive the exotic pet trade? Why would people want an exotic pet?

Share your thoughts at toistudent@timesofindia.com (Please send in a word doc format)

QUIZ TIME

Question 1: Who has been appointed the new chairman of Tata Trusts?

- a) Noel Tata
b) Jamshedji Tata
c) Dorabji Tata
d) Shantanu Naidu



Question 3: For how many days will NASA astronauts be stuck in space?

- a) 8 days
b) 8 months
c) 8 years
d) 8 hours



Question 2: Which club was Indian hockey captain Harmanpreet Singh bought by?

- a) Kalinga Lancers
b) Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers
c) Delhi SG Pipers
d) Soorma hockey club



Question 4: Which rock singer will be performing live in Bengaluru this December?

- a) Daniel Gilmur
b) Courtney Love
c) Bryan Adams
d) Rihanna



ANSWERS: 1. a) Noel Tata, 2. d) Soorma hockey club, 3. b) 8 months & c) Bryan Adams

Compiled by Rafay Khan, class VIII, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

MY SPACE

Painters' Gallery featuring three student artworks: a colorful bell, a silhouette of a person under a moon, and a profile of a face with a butterfly.

A simple trip, a great realization

My family decided to take a trip to Nilgiri Hills, finally acting on one of our many planned-but-never-done adventures. Unlike my family, who found comfort at home, I'd always craved new experiences. There was one lesson, though, I never truly understood: the importance of a mother's role. Somehow, I believed life would show me, and little did I know this trip would reveal this.

ADELINE EUGENE, class VIII, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

My life has been a rollercoaster



Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain. - Vivian Greene

Navigating high school is like walking a tightrope. Procrastination, the evil of time has led to disastrous effects, bringing me down in my academic performance, resulting in major clashes with my family. I had always had this constant urge to succeed, and to be 'perfect' in all my works, whether in school or at home, but as we all know no man is perfect. Life is unpredictable and I am learning to accept my highs and lows in this rollercoaster journey of mine.

RAFAEL J, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

WHEN MOMENTS MELT

How strange it feels, this shift of time, When laughter once would fill the night, And sleepovers, shared with friends and kin, Were filled with warmth and joy and light. But now those nights are left behind, Replaced by screens, so cold, so bright, When once we'd talk, now silence reigns, And sleepovers glow with pixel light.

MEHAK FATHIMA, class IX, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

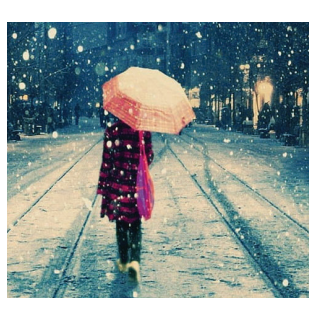
ANONYMITY

Somewhere in the vast void of infinity ... I saw myself staring back at me. Tears Glazed, Heart Broken, Her being confounded, Memories Unspoken. Forgotten is her title, Anonymous is her name. Lost in waves of desperation, Why is she to blame? Drowning in her own thoughts, Sinking in her timeframe. Forgetting is all she remembers, Her desolation harmonically aflame...

ALEENA JAVEED, class VIII, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

My happy rain memories

Ah! The rains. Its not just a weather, its 'a full-on festival. I love the rainy season, not only because I can play and jump in the puddles, but also our school gets rain holiday and I get 'ME' time. On an extremely cold rainy day my mother makes 'Hot chocolate drink!' and oh you'll totally not regret it, when you take the mug with much more than the required, ultimate satisfaction!

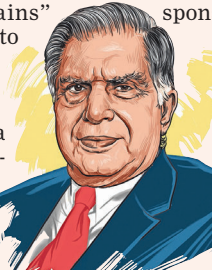


SHARON THERESE JACOB, class VI, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

Honouring his legacy in my own way

Ratan Naval Tata, a name I have always held in great esteem. He embodies grace, humility, and vision. His passing has deeply affected me, as he was not just a global business icon but a figure I admired profoundly. Growing up, I looked up to him, not just for his business acumen but for his values, which aligned with my own beliefs.

When I heard of his passing, I was shattered; It felt like the loss of a guiding light. But for his sake, I will make myself stronger, as I know he would want his legacy to inspire and uplift rather than bring sorrow. I may never be as great as him, but I will strive to achieve whatever I can, with the same spirit of dedication that he embodied.



THARUN NAIR, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

WIZARD'S CORNER

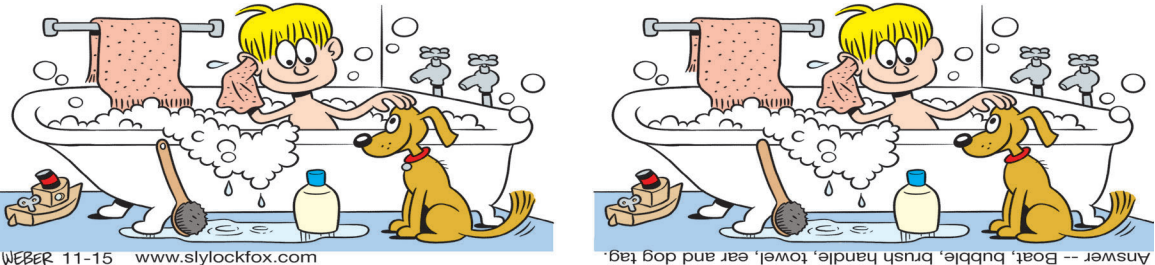
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. So the best way to pull yourself up is by indulging in mind teasers and laughter riots. Need a chill pill? Get into the **WIZARD'S CORNER!**

05

Guest Edition
BENGALURU

BRAIN TEASER: SPOT 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE PICS



WEBER 11-15 www.slylockfox.com Answer: 1. Boat, 2. bubble, 3. brush handle, 4. ear and dog tag, 5. towel, 6. dog

DO YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF THIS PHRASE?

"Stockbrokers in Dalal Street work in a completely 'dog-eat-dog' environment," said the new stockbroker to his client.

WHICH STATEMENT IS CORRECT?

- a. The new stockbroker said to his client that stockbrokers in Dalal Street work in a fiercely competitive environment and can even harm each other to succeed.
- b. The new stockbroker said to his client that stockbrokers in Dalal Street work in a very difficult environment with a lot of street dogs roaming around the place.

Answer: The first answer is correct. The phrase 'dog-eat-dog' is used to refer to a situation of fierce competition in which people are willing to harm each other in order to succeed. The new stockbroker used this idiom to explain to his client that the stockbrokers in Dalal Street work in a fiercely-competitive environment and can even harm each other to succeed.

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

RULE 1 - Each row must contain the numbers from 1 to 9, without repetitions

RULE 2 - Each column must contain the numbers from 1 to 9, without repetitions

RULE 3 - The digits can only occur once per block

1								8
	4		1			5	2	
	2	5			7	6		
		6	4		1		3	
				9				
	3		6	2	4			
		8	3			1	7	
	7	1			8		6	
2								3

Find the answers somewhere in the page

IDENTIFY THIS PERSON

HINT: He was history's greatest military leader. He fought the 'Battle of Waterloo'.



QUESTIONS:
1. What was his nationality?
2. Why was he a hero?

ANSWER: Napoleon Bonaparte was a Frenchman originally from Corsica. He became a hero after he seized power in the aftermath of the French Revolution, remade the country and conquered much of Europe.

Compiled by Joel Worth, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

GO FIGURE

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whichever operators you want to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

THE OPERATORS

÷ X + -

EASY [] [] [] [] [] = 16
4 5 7 8

MEDIUM [] [] [] [] [] = 33
2 3 8 9

HARD [] [] [] [] [] = 8
2 2 5 9

SOLUTIONS:
Easy 5 + 7 + 8 - 4 = 16
Medium 8 / 2 x 9 - 3 = 33
Hard 2 x 2 - 5 + 9 = 8

KNOW YOUR WORD USAGE

- Dynasty n.
historical fiction
hereditary rulers
political junta
interim government
- Influx n.
pulsating sound
removal
absorption
inflow
- Euphoria n.
eccentricity
love
mystical experience
elation

- Decor (day KOR) n.
decoration
manners
braid
- Inertia n.
exhaustion
powerful force
sluggishness
stubbornness

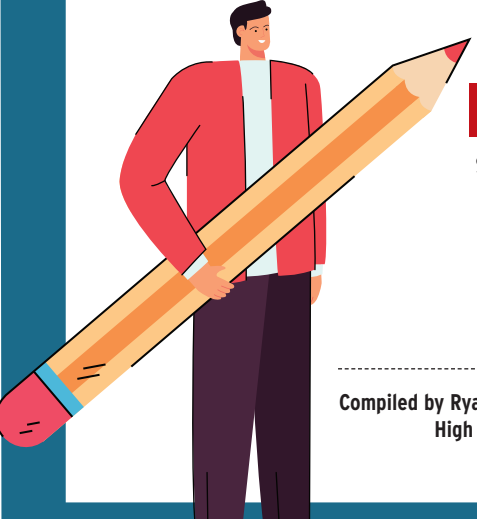
ANSWERS:

- Hereditary line of rulers; series of family members noted for wealth or success; as, the Rockefeller dynasty. Greek dynasthai (to have power).
- Inflow; inpouring; as, Mexico's influx of tourists. Latin influere.
- Elation; feelings of intense happiness. Greek eu-(well) and pherein (to bear).
- Decoration; style of furnishings, colours and the like in a home or an office. Latin decor (beauty).
- Sluggishness; slowness to take action; as, a nation paralysed by inertia. Latin, iners (inactive).

Make sentences with the words above...

CHECK YOUR VOCABULARY

- Incessant
Pause
Uninterrupted
Ceasing
Sweet smelling
- Forlorn
Lawn
Hopeful
Lonely
Length
- Cacophony
Harmony
Soothing
Jarring
Phonetics
- Ethereal
delicate
Real
Ethical
Real world
- Xenophobia
Fear of Heights
Fear of Water
Fear of Lizards
Fear of Strangers



ANSWERS

- 1 b) Uninterrupted
- 2 c) Lonely
- 3 c) Jarring
- 4 a) Delicate
- 5 d) Fear of Strangers

Compiled by Ryan Lloyd, class IX, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

MAKE SENTENCES HERE

LONELY _____

DELICATE _____

Idiom-etrics

- Boil the ocean**
Taking up an almost impossible or overly ambitious project.
Example: Tharun was boiling the ocean when he agreed to learn a new language in one week.
- Chip off the old block**
That a person is similar in behaviour or action to his parents.
Example: When I saw my grandson, I knew he was a chip off the old block.
- The long and the short of it**
The whole matter in a few words.
Example: The long and the short of the matter is that I don't wish to deal with you anymore.
- To flog a dead horse**
Waste energy on a lost cause.
Example: He was flogging a dead horse trying to get the little children to perform on stage.

Compiled by Mohammed Aariz, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

TRIVIA

Chip off the old block
The term originated in the early 17th century and is an analogy comparing a child to a piece of wood or stone that has been chipped off a larger block, with the small block exhibiting the same characteristics as the original block.

MAKE A SENTENCE WITH 'CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK'

Riding with the Riddle

- I have keys but no locks, space but no room. You can enter, but you can't go outside. What am I?
- What has a head, a tail, but no body?
- The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?
- What is full of holes but still holds water?
- What can travel around the world while staying in one spot?

WRITE 100 WORDS ABOUT A KEYBOARD

ANSWER: 1. A keyboard 2. A coin 3. Footsteps 4. A stamp 5. A stamp

Compiled by Neel Manoj, class III, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

TEST YOUR WORD POWER

- tirefepid
Terrified
Prolific
Pettrified
Profited
- yspiersp
Spiritually
Splendid
Stepped
Slippery
- nateuchit
Authentic
Architect
Ethically
Unhappy
- sraonealeb
Brainstorm
Brilliantly
Reasonably
Normalise

ANSWERS: 1 b) Petrified 2 d) Slippery 3 a) Authentic 4 c) Reasonable

Compiled by Tharun Nair, class X, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

LAUGH OUT LOUD



- Why don't skeletons fight each other? They don't have the guts!
- Why can't your nose be 12 inches long? Because then it'd be a foot!

Compiled by Rafay Khan, class VIII, St Germain High School, Bengaluru

