

Unlock thy mind



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Dear Amitians, I hope you all are safe and happy being engaged into creativity and innovations. Though the crisis looms, with our inner strength and

thoughtful actions, we have managed to be at a stage where our society, economy and industry can start functioning again with new normal.

This situation has endowed humanity with numerous lessons, with the most impactful one being 'mindful living with unlocked minds'. Yes, we now need to lead a new life but with much more awareness, care and compassion than ever before. Perhaps, it was the nature's message to human beings to wake up and improve.

A lot of it is attributed to the fact that while we read and heard about these things, we never really listened, cared or imbibed them. Because our minds were locked into our own zones. It's time to unlock the power of your mind and unleash the limitless possibility you as a human being are. Begin anew by imbibing the good values as a way of living. You all must have read in World Teenage Reporting Project how teens all over the world are innovating and striving to create a difference. Open up your inner self to the world outside and count upon your blessings. Unlock your inner being as the new better world knocks at your door. 🇮🇳

A rhythmic remedy

Striking The Chord With Each One Of Us

Kuhu Saha

AISS MV, XII G

The world today is stuck inside their homes fighting a war against an invisible enemy. On one hand, people are engaged in devising new weapons everyday while on the other hand, there are some who have introduced new possibilities of survival, by taking the first significant step towards it, i.e. sensitising the people around them. And to spread awareness, one such corona warrior, Jayas Kumar, a fourth grader from Amity Global School Noida and a young singing prodigy resorted to the power of music to do his bit for the society.

Jayas was able to grasp the urgency of the corona crisis as much as any adult could do. He understood that social distancing was paramount in this time, but along with that the little champ also realised the need for massive sensitisation of the same.

CORONA WARRIORS

Pandemics know no boundaries, and neither do warriors who battle them. This special series, running across Quarantine editions of all Amity schools, is an ode to those fighters. Highlighting stories of young change makers from within and outside Amity, this special series has been curated by young reporters across various Amity branches.



decided to pass my message to people musically at a time when everyone is tensed," shared young Jayas.

"He was just 2 and half years old, when we discovered the singer in Jayas. We decided to fuel his passion for singing," said Suruchi Rajeev, mother of Jayas. With the support of his family and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group Of Schools & RBEF, who firmly believes in nurturing the talent of children, Jayas became a popular face on national singing reality platforms.

"The ignorance of people about the current scenario demanded me to create awareness. As I am too young to go out, I de-

cidated to pass my message to people musically at a time when everyone is tensed," shared young Jayas.

The little musician was well aware of several government initiatives such as Aarogya Setu, an app fundamental in tracking the spread of COVID-19, therefore, he

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thought of imbibing the same in his inspiring musical composition. The result: Aarogya Setu Anthem, a song that swiftly communicated awareness on the pandemic. "This scenario ought to make everyone apprehensive. So, I thought that music must come to the rescue because it would also engage people more easily," he elaborated. Thus, believing that music is a therapy in itself, he emerged with an awe-inspiring anthem to cherish and remember.

While making the song, Jayas had one aim in mind: the edification of as many people as possible. And in a country like India, where people speak many languages, it came naturally to his mind that it must speak to the locals. Hence, the anthem has been made in eight languages where Jayas sings in Hindi and Marathi and other equally talented singers lend their voices in diverse languages. For it was not just a song, but a message too!

Well, it's no surprise that every journey comes with its own set of challenges. At a time when the entire country is locked inside their homes, recording a song was almost next to impossible, "The biggest hurdle was finding a suitable place for recording because all the studios were closed. So, I thought of recording the anthem within the house, inside an almirah to get a good vocal," says Jayas. And the difficulties didn't end here, "It took approximately 10 to 12 days to transform my idea into a reality as the most challenging part was to set coordination of vocal scale with other singers," shares Jayas.

Overcoming all the odds, Jayas successfully composed the anthem and promoted it on various digital platforms with the help of his parents. When asked about his aspirations for the anthem, he says, "Till now, the anthem has received 13,000 views on YouTube and 11,390 views on Instagram followed by heartwarming responses on digital platforms. I am overwhelmed to see this and would love to record it in other languages, and make it a global anthem to reach out to a larger audience." 

A Step By Step...

... Guide To Curing Any Disease

Yasmin Tandon, AIS PV, XI B

STEP 1: Know Thy Disease

The first step to finding a cure, much like the first step to finding anything else, is extensive research. This includes observing samples under a microscope, studying different symptoms shown by different people, keeping a lookout for mutations in the parasites, and also, reading research papers (so that you know you're ahead of your competitors).

STEP 2: Synthesise Thy Drug

Naturally, once you're well-read and have a decent idea of what your parasite likes and dislikes, you start mixing chemicals (Please don't try this at home, try borrowing a huge research lab instead). This tends to be a long, drawn-out but relatively not too bad procedure.

It is otherwise known as the calm before the storm.

STEP 3: Test Thy Drug

The drug, much like humans, needs to pass a

series of exams before kick-starting its career. The first of these is molecular testing. Any and every potential cure is first tested on thousands if not millions of molecules so that its reactions and potential side effects can be noted. Once it receives passing marks, it graduates.

Now, you may test it on human volunteers with the disease you're trying to cure. There are thousands of government-approved volunteers involved and extensive paperwork is involved. The author feels obligated to mention, human experimentation without approval is very illegal and a real-life SpiderMan can cause many problems.

STEP 4: Sell Thy Drug (But Patent Comes First)

If your drug checks all the boxes, (literally, you need to fill out forms) you file a patent and start production as soon as it comes through. Now, you may find distributors and sell them. Lastly, give inspirational speeches about the journey (the author would like a special mention and the agreed-upon 50% credit).

Illustration: Riya Chadha, AIS PV, XI B



Lockdown Rituals

That United All Of Us Indians In Our Very Own Homes

Harshaa Kawatra

AIS PV, XII E

The 2020 lockdown has not been just about sitting at home, making Dalgona coffee and participating in Tik-Tok challenges; our Prime Minister, in efforts to motivate the essential frontline workers, initiated activities for people across the country to indulge in together. First was the clapping session, wherein people were encouraged to clap in their bal-

conies in order to salute the doctors, the policemen and the army personnel, who constantly served the country even during this tough time. The second was the lighting of diyas, to ignite a sense of positivity amongst the people amidst the dreadful pandemic. Here's some noticeable reactions from our fellow Indians.

Category 1: The snobby ones

Do you know those people who can never appreciate good ges-

tures and always resist the norm? These people never welcome positive activities with a smile, it is somehow a necessity for them to give dry reactions to public initiatives rather loudly. Here too they had loads of complaints and snarky remarks to give, polished under the 'logical' excuse – "*Yaar ye taaliyan maarne se sab theek thodi ho jata hai.*" They disregarded the humane intent behind these actions very conveniently, blindly focusing on the banausic

merits of it. Emotional support, ever heard of it?

Category 2: The enthusiasts

The sheer excitement displayed by them for these activities is unbeatable (wide smiles were spotted, for a change). Preparations began an hour before the actual 'event', including diya decorations, fireworks collection, and setting up of speakers with maximum volume and bass. Everything was made ready to motivate (read celebrate) the corona patients and warriors enduring the pandemic. However, the bursting of crackers did make people and the confused street dogs question whether Diwali came early or not. There's a limit to everything, don't forget you all.

Category 3: The #Instagramers

Putting up stories with hashtags was the sole motive for them to participate. It was just another Instagram worthy trend for them after spamming our feeds with the beautiful yet bitter Dalgona aka Mom's home whipped coffee trend. They surely helped the media houses get enough content to announce the success of these tasks, now didn't they? Luckily, for our country, these activities survived the vibe check of the Gram, after all, it was all for the aesthetics, right?

At the end of the day, India is, indeed, a diverse country, right?

Illustration: Dhimant Badan, AIS PV, XII G



Threat level: 2020

Beware, There Is Still Six Months Of This Year Left!



Graphics: Tanmay Rai Nanda, 11C

Suhani Malik, AIS Pushp Vihar, XII B

Steady your beating hearts and your clattering teeth- 2020 is here. Every month we think, “it can’t get any worse than this” and we’re proven wrong each time. Living to see another morning this year qualifies for survival skills that are at par with Bear Grylls. Here’s proof of our survival skills, a timeline of what went wrong with the year 2020.

Australia Bushfires: The bushfires, which are a common phenomenon in Australia, started as early as June 2019 and continue to impact the continent. These occurred early due to an immense heatwave which led the bushfires to be unusually intense. The fires burnt more than 18 million hectares of land, killed about a billion animals and proved fatal for more than 30 humans. They caused so much smoke that this period is known as the ‘Black Summer’.

COVID-19 pandemic declared: WHO de-

clared COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic on March 11, months after the first cases were observed. By this time, the virus had spread to more than 100 countries. At that time, more than 4000 deaths and 120,000+ cases were reported throughout the globe.

Vishakhapatnam Gas Leak: The Vizag gas leak occurred at the plant of LG Polymers chemical on 7th May, due to improper maintenance and negligence. Eleven people lost their lives and more than a thousand were impacted by the tragedy. The plant stored more than 2000 metric tons of Styrene which were left unattended. Due to improper temperature maintenance and a technical glitch, the styrene vaporised causing the gas to leak and spread to nearby villages.

Cyclone Amphan and Nisarga: Cyclone Amphan hit Eastern India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in mid-May. It was the strongest cyclone to hit the country after cyclone Sidr in 2007. The winds went up to a speed of 240 km/h. The Andaman Islands, Bengal and

Odisha remained the highest impacted regions in the country, taking 98 lives in our country alone. Cyclone Nisarga became the strongest cyclone to hit Maharashtra since 1891 and struck within two weeks of Amphan. Wind speed reached more than 110 km/h and six lives were lost.

Locust Attack: Swarms of locusts invaded the country since April 11. They first entered districts in Rajasthan, passing from Sindh in Pakistan. They left an impact on Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh along with many other cities. Large areas of cropland were destroyed by the insects in their pursuit of food.

Indo-Chinese Border Tensions: Border Skirmishes between Indian and Chinese troops are not uncommon occurrences. However, they took a turn for the worse in June 2020 as it developed into a military standoff taking the lives of many soldiers from both countries. Diplomatic talks are in the works, but it remains to see how bilateral relations can be maintained at a time like this. **GT**

The war of life

Words Verse

Hardik Sardana, AIS PV, XII B

Two armies in glistening armour
 Standing tall, face to face
 Swords, phalanxes, spears drawn
 Ablaze arrows, ready to kill

They say warriors live a harsh life
 Fighting continuously to death
 Facing the enemy alone, all alone
 With no kith or kin whatsoever

But what about me?
 What about every one of us?
 Fighting the war of life?
 Or just surving a battle within?

What about me, with armies within
 Republic of Brain, Kingdom of Heart
 And Rebels of Mind

Each thirsty to have things their way
 Warriors do fight, and it is for a cause
 For land or labour, for money or power
 But what actually is the fight for
 When you're fighting with yourself?

Wars cost, life and wealth
 But this war causes just exhaustion
 Day by day the will to stay happy
 Decreases like the number of survivors

Warriors have brave comrades
 Who live and die at the side
 Who do I have when I can't explain
 What's going in battlefield of my Head

This war I fight alone, all alone
 With no comrades but myself
 This war I fight alone
 With none, but me.  

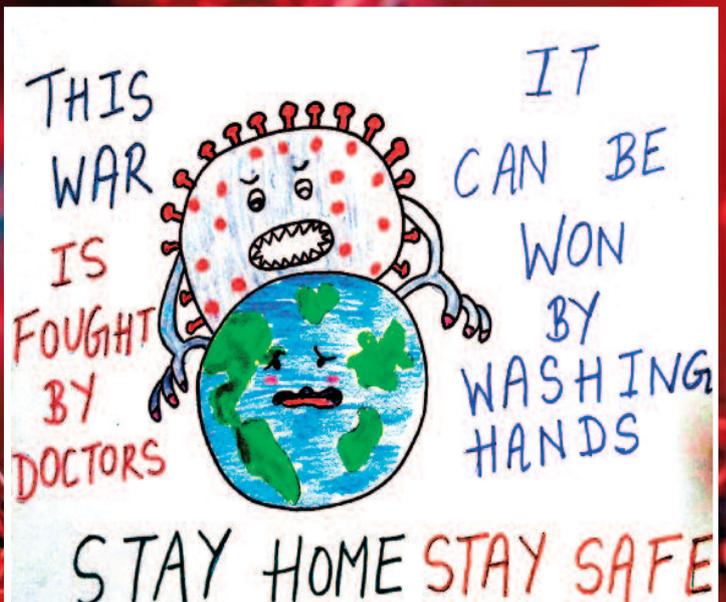


Illustration: Saanvi Tuteja, AIS PV, VE

Artistic Expression



Sifat Kaur Chaddha, AIS Pushp Vihar, VIB



Saanvi Tuteja, AIS Pushp Vihar, VE