

Magic Show

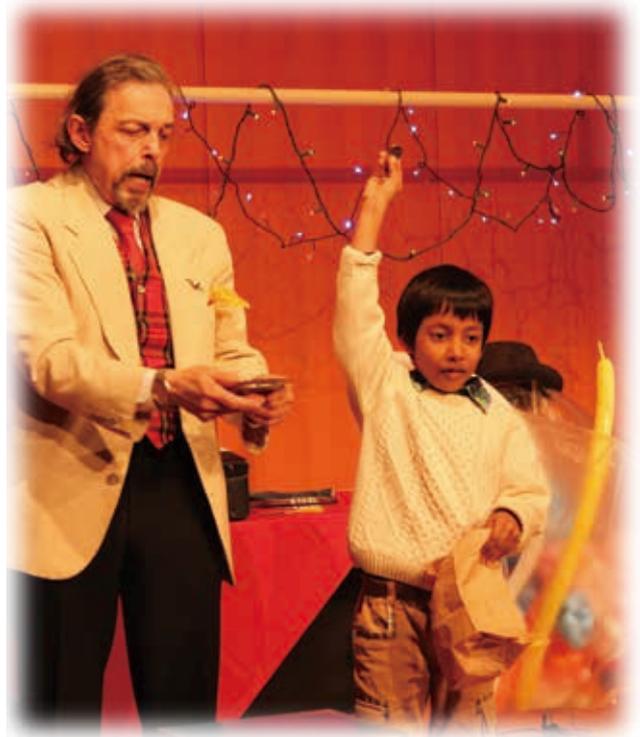
- Aaryan Kumar, Grade II

I went to Saraswati Puja on a Saturday. There were performances by Kids. There was a magic show too. The magician was funny. He was tricking. I liked it when he could pull out coins out from our ears. I wonder how he did that. His wand was breakable because there was a button on it. He was also breaking cards and flipping it when no one was seeing it.

Then the magician chose me to help him, maybe because he thought I would be the best assistant for the next trick. The trick was to pull out coins from a sack and then he would look for and find more coins in it.

He made lots of animal balloons too. I chose a poodle. I think he was hiding most of the things in his suit pocket.

I like magic because it tricks people to get confused. I want to be a magician because I want to make people happy and I can earn money.



World Religion Word Search

Search for the world religions in the letters below. The words can be found in a straight line horizontally, vertically or diagonally. It can be read backward or forward.

WORDS: BAHAI, BUDDHISM, JAINISM, HINDUISM, CHRISTIANITY, JUDAISM, ISLAM, TAOISM, SHINTO, SIKHISM, MORMONISM, ZOROASTRIANISM, ATHEISM.

M	A	D	L	F	B	R	O	D	G	B	A	W
S	R	F	T	H	U	Y	T	K	D	Y	T	Y
I	C	U	L	E	D	S	N	B	J	W	H	D
N	B	H	I	N	D	U	I	S	M	O	E	N
A	K	E	R	M	H	U	H	B	T	B	I	F
I	D	X	W	I	I	Y	S	A	N	U	S	N
R	U	C	U	S	S	I	K	H	I	S	M	K
T	N	Z	L	H	M	T	E	A	J	G	R	T
S	F	A	P	B	A	Q	I	I	A	H	A	B
A	M	D	G	O	J	U	D	A	I	S	M	O
O	X	Z	I	H	C	A	R	J	N	L	A	W
R	I	S	W	M	L	F	P	T	I	I	S	B
O	M	A	F	J	E	U	R	L	S	D	T	V
Z	M	S	I	N	O	M	R	O	M	P	F	Y

My Trip To India

- Akanksha Mukherjee, Grade II

My name is Akanksha. Today, I am going to talk about my trip in India. One day when I woke up in the morning, I shouted "Yay, tomorrow I am going to India!" My mother told me to go back to sleep but I could not sleep at all. I was so excited about my trip. After I came back from my school, I played with my friends. Next morning, when I woke up, I was very happy. We went to airport to catch the plane to India via Bangkok. I was sitting next to my mother. The airplane took a very long time to reach Bangkok. I was becoming impatient and asking my mother repeatedly when will I reach? The plane reached Bangkok and in the airport I was having a look at books and Barbie Dolls in a shop. We ate something light and took the next plane to Kolkata. I was eagerly waiting to meet my family in the airplane.

Finally the plane reached Kolkata airport and we met our relatives. I was so happy to see everybody. First I went to my papa's house in Gol Park. I stayed there for a few days and then came to Park Circus, my mom's house.

I also attended my uncle's wedding. His name is

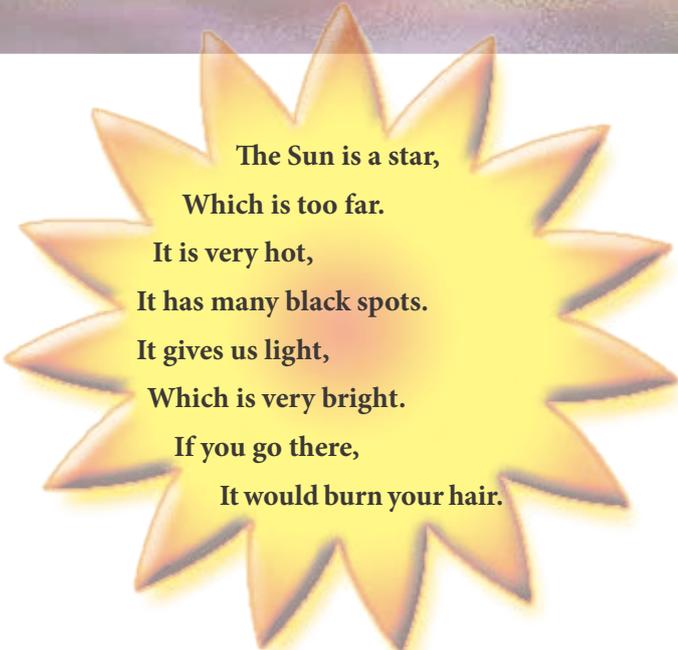
Niladri. We had a great time there. The day after the wedding I went to the bride's house with my relatives to bring my uncle and his wife back to his home. I saw that my uncle's wife was crying. So I ask my brother why she was crying. My brother said that she was crying because she was going to leave her house. The next day I and my family went to the reception party. I was wearing a beautiful Lehenga.

One day I went to my cousin sister's school to pick her up with my aunt. She was very surprised to see me there. She ran to me and gave me a big hug. Then I went to her house and in the afternoon we went to a nice park. Another day I went to a place called Ibiza with all my relatives. That was such a fun place, I did swimming, boating, played with my cousins and had lots of fun. Another day, I and my cousins went to see a movie called Spider-Man. I was a little bit scared to watch a 3D movie. Then we went to a restaurant and had pizza and French fries. Once, all of us went for a horse ride in front of Victoria memorial.

I stayed in India for a month and half. I cried a lot before coming to Japan. I love to stay in India.

The Sun

- Rajarshi Nath, Grade III



**The Sun is a star,
Which is too far.
It is very hot,
It has many black spots.
It gives us light,
Which is very bright.
If you go there,
It would burn your hair.**

Months of the Year

- Sneha Pal, Grade IV

January welcomes the New Year,
With laughs and loud cheers.

February is the shortest one,
With valentine sweets and lots of fun.

March is the time for growing leaves,
Snow and ice melts while frost leaves.

April is the start of hot summer,
The day and night is getting warmer.

May is the time for beautiful flowers,
The tall trees are rising like towers.

First June is my birthday,
I meet all my friends on this day.

July is my brother's birthday,
Gifts and presents for him on this day.

August is wet with falling rain,
Watching birds through the window pane.

September is apple growing time,
In cold places there grows many pines.

In October, I meet my cousin every-year,
Because Durga puja is coming near.

November month is very chill,
We watch dewdrops form on the window sill.

Goodbye, December the last in the year,
Time to get ready for the coming year.

夏休みの思い出

– Sohini Datta (9 years)

今

年は、インドからおじいちゃんとおばあちゃんが夏休みに日本に来ました。皆で、8月16～21日に東京と京都と大阪に行って来ました。日立市の家から東京までは車じゃなくてバスで行きました。おばあちゃんのとりに座りました。東京のホテルについてからつかれていたの寝ました。寝ている間にお母さんとお父さんがスカイツリーのチケットを取りに行きました。スカイツリーのエレベーターは春、夏、秋、冬のエレベーターがありました。私は上る時、降りる時どちらも春でした。春のえがらは桜でした。上から見たら町が小さく見えました。その後10時ぐらいにMcDonaldを食べに行きました。おいしかったです。



写真1 スカイツリー

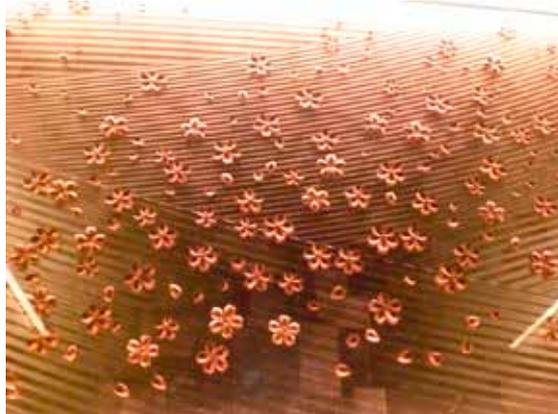


写真2 エレベーター内(春、桜がら)

そして寝て、次の日今度は京都に行きました。東京から京都までは、新幹線で行きました。ホテルには9時について、2時までは入れませんでした。なので、京都駅近くのお店で朝ごはんを食べました。お父さんは、コーヒを飲みました。コーヒには女の子の絵が書いてありました。その後、金閣寺に行きました。すごく暑かった。昼ごはんを食べに行ったり、お店を回ったりしました。昼ごはんはレストランでラーメンを食べました。



写真3 京都のコーヒ



写真4 金閣寺

次の朝、三十三間どうに行きました。インドの神様がいました。その日昼ご飯を食べて京都から大阪まで電車で来ました。着いてから、家族みんなでカードゲームをしました。楽しかったです。その後、5時から6時まで作文を書きました。それから、お風呂で遊んで、7時からテレビでマジックショーを見ました。8時にレストランへ食べに行きました。レストランでは、妹がスパゲッティを食べていました。おもちゃも貰いました。帰ってきたのが10時だったので、すぐ寝ました。次の日朝7時に起きて遊びました。そのあと、出かけました。昼ご飯も買いに行きました。お握りを食べました。

次の日、Universal Studio Japan (USJ)に行きました。最初にSnoopyに乗りました。50分並んで、5分ぐらいのライドでした。ずっと遊んで最後にJurassic Parkに行きました。私が一番楽しかったのは、Water Worldのショーでした。



写真5 Water Worldショー



写真6 Jurassic Park前

次の日ホテルから出て、新幹線に乗って、バスに乗って家に戻って来て、すぐKumonに行きました。4日過ぎると、8月25日私の誕生日でした。おばあちゃんにいっぱいプレゼントを買って貰いました。そして、五日過ぎたら、おばあちゃん、おじいちゃんがインドに戻りました。戻る日は悲しかったです。この夏休みにたくさん思い出が作れました。



2010 8. なまはげ(秋田) アラカワ

Dark Knight

- Nishant Chanda, Grade VI

Dark, strong, smart, and helping... it is Batman. The astonishing director Christopher Nolan, directed three movies with the character Batman. The three parts are Batman Begins, The Dark Knight and The Dark Knight Rises. I've watched all three of the stunning movies, but my favourite one is the second one: The Dark Knight.

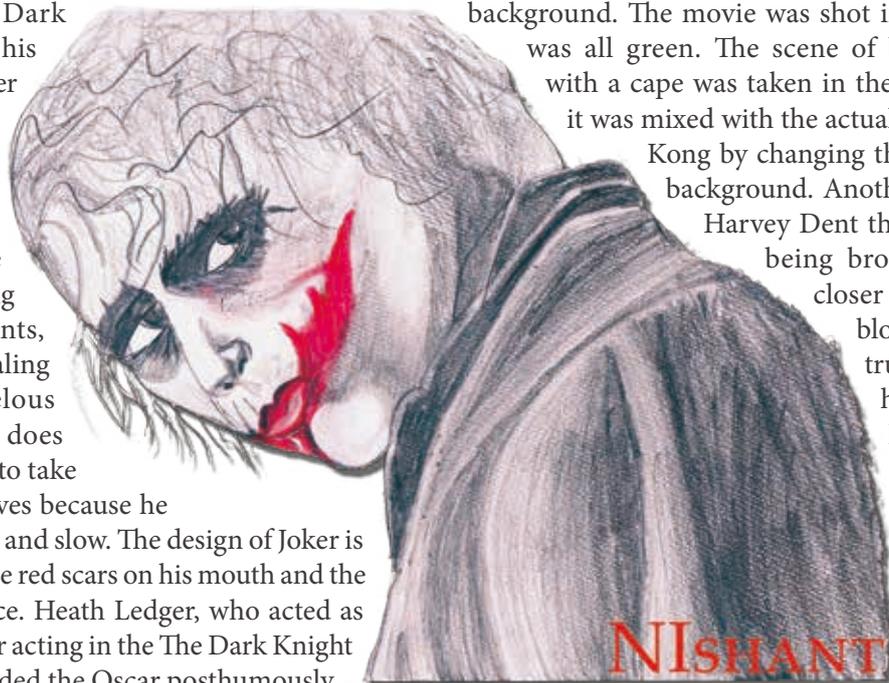
Batman also known as Dark Knight, was acted by Christian Bale. He is an ordinary person, who had a fear of bats since he was a little boy. Batman's gear consists of many sophisticated items. One of them is his armour, which is partly bulletproof and very flexible. He has a special gun, which does not take lives. Because his oath is not to kill, he uses it to shoot time bombs. Batman also has a tumbler, which is a strong, four-wheeled car, which is high tech, fast, and airborne. The tumbler can transform into a bat pod, a cool looking bike in which batman lies horizontally and drives. He also has a cape, which is called the memory fabric. It hardens when electrified and Batman uses it to help him glide. Most people think he can fly, but even though it looks like it, he can only glide.

In the first movie: Batman Begins, Batman saved people from a poisonous gas, which was spread in the water lines. In The Dark Knight the second movie, he saved Gotham City from the Joker, an evil person. The Joker, in The Dark Knight is a humorous, evil, person. It is surprising that he kills his own people to achieve something. The Dark Knight has to keep his oath and put the Joker in the right place: jail. He did succeed in the end. Joker is one my favourite characters because he makes interesting jokes and comments, and he has an appealing look and marvelous acting. The Joker does not like to use guns to take lives; he prefers knives because he thinks it is more fun and slow. The design of Joker is unique because of the red scars on his mouth and the pale evil looking face. Heath Ledger, who acted as Joker, died soon after acting in the The Dark Knight movie. He was awarded the Oscar posthumously

for his supporting role.

In the recent series of Batman, Dark Knight Rises, the Dark Knight resurfaces and takes down another enemy: Bane. Bane acted by Tom Hardy, is a character that I really don't favour. He doesn't have an interesting personality. He wants to help Miranda also known as Talia al Ghul, explode a nuclear bomb. Miranda wants to accomplish what her dad wanted to do, rip Gotham City apart. When Miranda was small, Bane and Miranda were in a dungeon-like place. The only possible way of escaping was climbing up. Bane helped Miranda to escape the steep walls even though the other prisoners denied. His nose and mouth were cut off, so now Bane has an artificial nose, which I think is sad.

All the movies have breakneck stunts, and that is what I like about the movies. As I was thrilled by the movie, I did some research on the movie Dark Knight. I found out a lot about the stunts. Many parts of the movie had fake things. In the first scene where the Joker robs the bank, a bus breaks in the door. The door of the bank wasn't real, it was a fake. Even the bank was a fake; it was actually a post office. The scene was really impressing as a start. In another scene, 'The Honk Kong Jump' was pretty much real. Batman was connected to a helicopter with some wire and he was put through the sky. I was surprised they did it for real. They also used a bit of green screen for that scene. Green screen is a way to shoot a movie and be able to change the background. The movie was shot in a hall, which was all green. The scene of batman falling with a cape was taken in the hall, and then it was mixed with the actual video in Hong Kong by changing the green screen background. Another stunt, when Harvey Dent the attorney, was being brought to jail, a closer way to jail was blocked with a fire truck so the police had to bring him through an underground tunnel. A few S.W.A.T. vans and Batman escorted Dent. Joker followed

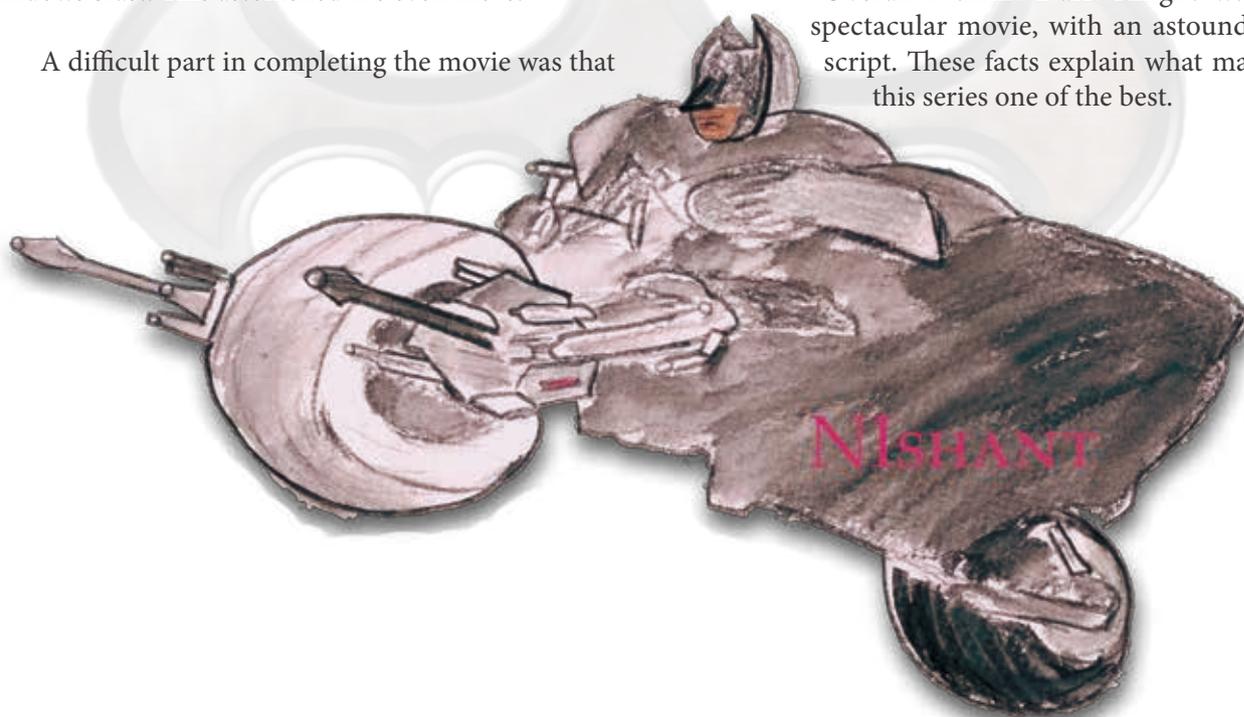


them and destroyed some of the vehicles. One of the S.W.A.T. vans was pushed into a river. This stunt was real except there wasn't any driver in the van. With the same scene as before, a garbage truck with a driver on Joker's side also helped destroying S.W.A.T. vans. Batman and his tumbler (car) destroyed the garbage truck by driving against it and pushing the truck from underneath. This stunt was done real using miniatures. The producers made 1/3 the size of the scene and fit the parts together using miniatures and real sized material. I think this idea was great! Soon after that, the bat pod (Batman's bike) meets Joker's truck. Batman flips the truck by tripping it. This was also done real with the help of pistons. Soon Joker endangered all the hospitals. After Harvey Dent had an accident, Joker escaped and blew up the hospital. Dent somehow survived. The hospital was actually burst, which really surprised me. The only CG (Computer Graphics) added was the windows blast. This astonished me even more!

A difficult part in completing the movie was that

Christopher Nolan, the director wanted the majority of the movie to be made in IMAX format. IMAX film are much bigger in size, so the picture quality much better. Normal film size is 35mm, whereas the IMAX's size is 70mm. The picture quality is wonderful! IMAX cameras are normally used to take videos of animals, and are kept still with out any panning, but this movie has lots of panning and special arms that are connected to cars to take the footage. The cameras itself are enormous. The angles have to be the best ones. They didn't use the old ways that is taking a stunt from 5 or 6 angles, but the people in the Dark Knight chose the best angles. One of the IMAX cameras were damaged during the shooting of the movie, this made me sad because I really wished I could use one. As of 2008, there are very few IMAX cameras in the whole world.

Overall I think Dark Knight was a spectacular movie, with an astounding script. These facts explain what makes this series one of the best.



With your Book-Shelf, Change your Life

- Aishwarya Kumar, Grade VII

Have you ever wished that your life could be different? That your life can be full of mystery and excitement? Well, then you should read fiction books. Good fiction books can take you into the life of the characters, and after you finish reading it, you feel like you are part of that world. When you read it again, it feels like an old friend. If you have at least six very good fiction books you are guaranteed an exit from the usually predictable world of today.

Reading about different persons problems in fiction books, really helps realize that there is a way out of dilemmas and issues that might be in one's own life. Fiction books usually are so crazy and seem impossible to fix, but then the simplest of solutions are used to put life back in order. For example, in the book *Around the World in Eighty days*, the only reason Phileas managed to make it back home on time was because of the time zones. It helps you think everything is possible. So maybe, you might be up to a very exciting, very real, life in which you might do something extraordinary.

Before you tell me that it impossible, and that fiction books is just imagination, therefore, we cannot feel that we experienced it, there is realistic fiction.

Realistic fiction books have simple very real lives that are easy to imagine, and yet, some crazy, but believable problem arises. These books are just as great as crazy fantasy books but are easier to believe.

You don't have to go to the bookstore every other day, five good books could be a life's supply. It can, but you should read more than that. Reading a lot of fiction books can give you a different perspective of life. Not only in books, but the life you're living. It is also easy to enjoy reading a new story, and predict what might happen. However, if you picked a good fiction book off the shelf, I guarantee that you are never going to get your guesses right, unless you cheated and read a book review or summary before. Well, there is no shame in guessing wrong. All it means is you've got a good book taste.

Books are a record. They stay forever. That means that you can have a good time by reading the same books over again. Although it is the same words on the page, you may understand it better. Or appreciate it more. The books can affect you, give you a message you didn't see before, and have greater value than nonfiction.

What if you think that your life is the world of fantasy, and it is the best it could be? Then, fantasy books are still very good. It's a great leisure activity, and it sparks up your imagination. What if, you can make life even better for yourself? Imagination helps people with everything. Before, we imagined that someday that we can communicate to people miles away in a second. Now how many ways can we do that? There are telephones, cell phones which we can communicate from anywhere, email, and social network sites. Jules Verne wrote about going to the moon, a century before it really happened. What can you do? Why not check fiction books for ideas? No one has actually done those things, have they? Then with a little adjustment, you might make the most sensational discovery on earth.

Fiction can also change your life completely. There are realistic fiction books that might persuade you to take care of nature. Or they can change you in some way that seems minor but somewhat great. Maybe you read some crazy science fiction book that makes you want to eat something you dislike. So why don't you pick up a book or two at a library or a bookstore and get ready for the thrilling world of fantasy?



Author to our school

- Arunansu Patra, Grade VII

On August 30, 2012, our English class was going to be a special one. However a week before that, we were supposed to make four groups of four, which sat nicely since there were only sixteen of us, and make a presentation about the author. The author's name was Holly Thompson, and she is a famous author. We all had to chose an open-ended question, like what inspired her to write, what are the different techniques she uses when she writes, etc. Then we had to answer it by researching about her. One person in our group used the question: How did she become an author? The second person used: What kind of genres (types of books, e.g., adventure, horror) does she like to write? Another person used: What books have she written and which is the first? I used: Who is her audience? (Audience meaning if she is writing for children or adults or young adults.) The others did all their presentations as well. Strangely, the main thing that was in common was that three of the presentations had the exact words "For her love of words" which was a little bizarre, but then it meant that three of those presentations had almost written the same information on one question. Luckily we weren't the group who had that information, but our English teacher was disappointed with our presentations mainly because of that. Then our homework became to perfect our presentations using bullet points instead of putting in the whole script in the slides.

When the day Holly Thompson would visit our school had come, everyone in grade 7 had to go to the loft after morning announcements. There we all sat on the ground and then the session begun. First our teacher asked if we remembered what books she had written. We answered almost all the books she had written, which were *Orchards*, *Ash*, *The Broken Bridge*, *The Wakame Gatherers*, *Tomo* and *The Language Inside*, which is due to be out in May. Most of her books have characters that are bicultural. Usually they have a Japanese parent. Holly Thompson had been living in Japan for maybe a couple of years. For one of those years, she had been working at a mikan farm so now she knows all about Mikan (tangerine) gathering. One thing that makes her famous is that two of the recent books, *Orchards* and *The Language Inside*, are written in verse. That means the format of the writing is the same format as a poem. A short line or stanza of a few words, and then it goes to the next line. She said that when she first started writing, she felt as though it did not sit well with the whole story and how the character felt. So she played around with the lines until she found a formatting perfect for the

character's feeling, and she also found it easier for her to write in verse.

The book *Orchards* is about a girl, Ruth, who commits suicide because she thinks the other girls at school have to go to different countries and separate "like a pearl necklace snapped" so they can learn to be a better person. The main character, Kana Goldberg who is half Japanese and half Jewish-American, has relatives in Japan so she has to move there to live with her relatives. Holly Thompson decided to write this book because her friend's daughter had committed suicide. She thought the people were not taking the bullying issue seriously, so she decided to write a book about it. She also developed the idea when the farmer's daughter, who is bicultural, had come to visit. She seemed to feel "alien" there, and Holly Thompson seemed to have found it somewhat amusing to see her make fun mistakes that would be silly here in Japan. This book is mostly aimed for young adults 12 years old and above. We were given pieces of paper copied from chapter 22 of *Orchards* to read and discuss as a whole grade.

Our class has read the *Wakame Gatherers* as a whole class. It is a picture book and good for little children. It is about a little girl who is bicultural and therefore, has two grandmothers. One that she calls gran, another that she calls baachan. Her baachan had been collecting wakame or seaweed since she was a child, so she knows everything about wakame gathering. She takes her granddaughter and her gran to go and gather wakame. This is a new experience for the little girl and her gran. But with baachan's support, they manage to get some fresh wakame for wakame sandwiches. While gathering the wakame, the little girl asks baachan a question that leads to a story. At first, Holly Thompson was planning to write an article about people here eating seaweed since the people where she used to live, which is America, could not imagine eating seaweed. But then she wanted to be creative, and instead of writing an article, she wrote a story instead. I would recommend this book for children who can already read but those who enjoy reading picture books.

There are many other books she has written that we have not discussed so I have not put any information on those books.

Then we had some questions and answers time, and then the session was over. We would have recess, and then, for our class, we would have one period of humanities, and then only our class would be going to

the loft to see Holly Thompson and to do some activities with her. At first we were looking at some poems that other people wrote. Most of them were poems that were something that happened in one moment. Then she showed us some of her poems that had some Japanese elements in it. One of them was about *kaki no tane*, which are rice crackers in the shape of a crescent and is orange in colour. It comes in a small packet and usually comes with salted peanuts. Sometimes the *kaki no tane* can be wasabi flavoured too. Her poem said how she did not want the packet to be empty, but she keeps eating it. Another one she wrote was about *natto*, which are fermented soybeans. And despite the smell, it isn't too bad to taste and I recommend it with rice. Her poem tells not to worry about the smell or the stickiness, but to enjoy how the string gets stuck to your chopsticks, your nose and your mouth. Then she told us to write some poems of any occasion that you have experienced, whether it is a moment or a big event. I chose to do my first Nerf® gun fight at my friend's house. After much thought, here is what my final poem sounds like:

I am suspended
In my hiding spot
I cannot go
To where I want to go.
Why?
Because if I do
I might get shot.
And if I do
Get shot,
I will either
Get injured
Or die.

At my hiding spot
I can see
Bullets raining down
From the second floor.
PONG!
A bullet is free
From its gun,

WHACK!
The bullet attacks the ground
And cannot go any further.
I catch sight
Of my teammates
Collecting scattered ammunition
To add to their guns.
But I was prepared,
I was equipped
With my own stash
Of ammunition
Right in my hiding spot.

From my hiding spot
I take a risk.
I point my maverick at someone
And pulled the trigger.
Success!
I manage to take
Someone's arm off.
This shot encouraged me
To take another shot.
But then I felt it
On my head
A chunk of sponge
Pounced on my head
And then I call out
"Nice shot!"
But in loss,
Because if I get shot
on the head,
I die.

After the poems were written, we all had another time to ask questions. Then after we asked the questions, it was time to go. Some people already left, but then most people stayed to get her autograph, including me. I got her autograph on the front cover of my English notebook, so I resolved never to throw the book away. Then after that all the classes went back to normal, and then we all went home. Thank you for reading.

Then and Now

- Arunit Baidya, Grade VIII

With the passing of time things keep changing. From ancient time there has been lot of changes in every field. We too have witnessed many remarkable changes in our short span of life. Some of the changes we have experienced are very remarkable & I would like to mention some of the changes we miss ever.

In our parents childhood they did not enjoy electronics or electrical gadgets like iPad, iPod, spectrum phone and Nintendo but, the natural & poorly hand-made playing items would give them more pleasure and independence in their childhood! They didn't get modern playing items, but open field for playing games like football, hide and seek, climbing trees, playing with hand-made swings tied onto the branches of trees, swimming in the ponds, canals and rivers was better facilities to them.

And they used to be happier than we do nowadays; I believe there was more pleasure swimming

in ponds, canals and in rivers than in the modern swimming pools with automatic depth adjustment facilities. In the earlier days there used to be joint families living peacefully but now, there are hardly any families with grandparents and uncles and aunts living together under one roof. Now we look everything in programs like Google and internet explorer. Our parents use to ask their queries to grandma, grandpa, uncle, aunt, cousin and so many relatives around, and with great care and love they use to answer all their questions. Parents had their famous stories called 'thakurmar jhuli' and all we have now is technology. I would like to mention the different terms of transport. In the earlier days children used to go to school by foot and bicycles in groups and used to enjoy a lot. In our parents time they used to get home made foods like 'kasundi', 'pithe' and more foods which they used to eat very happily.

To tell you in short, we are experiencing lot of changes, but I believe the simplicity, freedom, closeness, and purity that our forefather used to enjoy, was better than we are going through now.

Some Noble And Virtuous Mothers

Putlibai, the mother of Mahatma Gandhi, spent her life in the contemplation of God. She used to observe a vow wherein she would not partake of food unless she heard the singing of cuckoo. One day it so happened that the song of cuckoo was not heard. Gandhi, who was a small boy then, could not bear to see his mother fasting for a long time. He went behind the house and mimicked the singing of cuckoo. Putlibai felt very sad as she knew that her son was uttering a lie. She cried, "O God! What sin have I committed that I gave birth to a son who speaks untruth?" Realizing that he had caused immense grief to his mother by uttering a lie, Gandhi took a vow that he would never indulge in falsehood thenceforth. So, it is imperative that the mother gives training in moral values to her children right from their childhood. She should not overlook the mistakes of her children. She should punish her children whenever they stray away from the right path and reward them for their good deeds. It is because of the feelings of the mother that the children become good or bad. Gandhi's mother was a strict disciplinarian and pure-hearted. As the saying goes, "Yatha Raja, Thatha Praja" (as the king, so the subjects), she had a maidservant named Rambha, who used to look after the children with love and care. One day, Gandhi came running to her and told that he was haunted by fear. Rambha told him, "My dear one, where is the need to fear when all-protecting Ramachandra is with us always. Recite the Name of Rama whenever you are fear-stricken." From then onwards, Gandhi chanted the Name of Rama till his last breath. Can we find such noble-hearted women today? It is because of such women that the children take to the path of righteousness.

Journey in the Computer

- Amartya Mukherjee, Grade VII

Hi, my name is Amartya Mukherjee and I want to tell you a story about what happened one year ago. This is a story on why I am banned from playing video games as well as how I got a new family member. Scientists from all around the world have come to investigate this incident but none of them have been able to explain it. This will also teach you to be more conscious. It all started when I was supposed to scan a document, using our Canon printer (which scans as well). Since the printer was too high, I stood on a chair with wheels. But then the chair got pushed away and I fell on the printer.

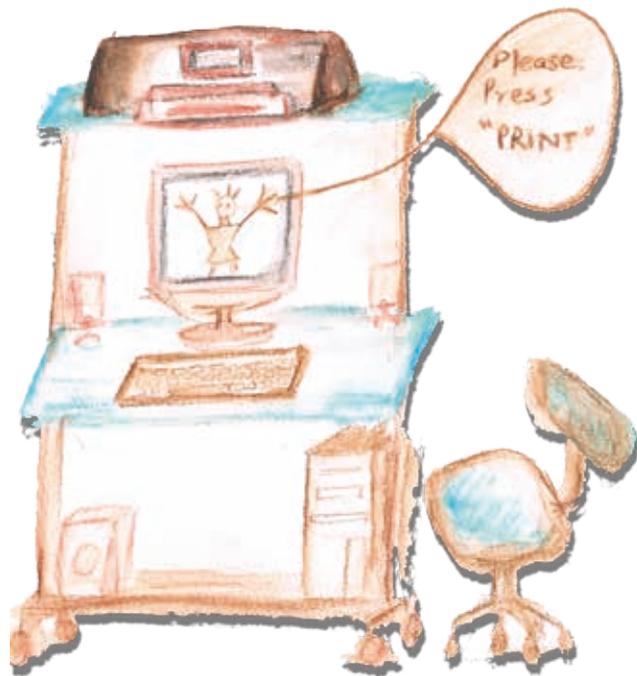
Then it started, I came into the computer screen. It did not really feel bad being in the computer. I saw many different buttons I had only one way of escaping: pushing the print button, but it was too high. Suddenly, I heard my sister come up to the computer to play some games. She opened internet explorer, not noticing me inside. Then she opened Google and typed 'miniclip' and pushed the 'Enter' button. Next, she played a strange game of a man fighting against a dragon. At least I was not in the game but it was like a 3D game in the computer. When the dragon spitted fire, it felt like it was about to hit me. There was a health bar on the top. I was glad it was not my health bar, but it kept decreasing. Fortunately, later the 'game over' button appeared in a flash. After that message popped up, my sister shouted "I lost". But then she played another round and shouted "I lost again". Finally, she clicked the close button and left. I was relieved but she did not at all recognize me.

Next, my father came up into the computer. He clicked on a type of ball: blue in the center, red in the top, green in the left, yellow in the right, the Google chrome button. He typed 'BBC'. Then the BBC news website appeared on the screen. And he read the news along with me. But in the middle, I fell asleep. While I was sleeping, he watched a video on BBC which lasted for two hours. Later, I woke up and I saw a giant document with writing on it. He was using Microsoft Word. After a few minutes, he just moved to another site with squared papers. He was using Microsoft Excel. But he was using some very complicated Excel skills. That was enough observing for one day. But he never even noticed me, or printed anything. And after his work was finished, he saved his work and left while saying "I have the feeling my work is being watched

by someone else. Maybe I will just take a short nap". Second time failed.

Finally my mother came to the computer to do her office work. I was lucky because she almost always prints out her work. This was my only chance to escape so I stood patiently waiting for her to do her work. She spent one whole hour on doing her work that I fell asleep once more. I woke up later due to some strange sound going on above me. It was the printer. My mother clicked on 'print'. Finally, as the papers were coming out, so was I. Finally, I came out and fell on the floor with a thud.

It hurt a lot on my face. "Amartya?" asked my mother. "What are you doing?" I told her the whole story. "Oh my god" said my mother looking down at the desk. What?" I asked. "I have printed out two copies". I got a twin brother. I was shocked. "Hello" I said to him. He spoke in a strange language. "Mtrkgnmiofnjttnruieureirennf Amartya Mukherjee fgjiodpfg" he said. "Look at you" my mother said to both of us. "Full of dirt. Go and have a bath". "Dfnvguininsdjnuhuuivhgjjfjdfjfg?" my twin brother said. Then my mother said to my father "Make sure your son never plays video games again".



The Biggest Killer Dino

- Akash Dutta Gupta, Grade IX



Standing almost 30 feet high and with a length of 60 feet, Spinosaurus (meaning “spine lizard”) was the largest land carnivore in its time. But it still isn’t as famous as the 5 star Tyrannosaurus rex and Allosaurus, but with its vicious claws, strong muscular arms and the humongous but peculiar sail on its back, it deserves equally high celebrity status.

The first every fossil of a Spinosaur was destroyed. Human history collided with prehistory. The only fossil founded by a German paleontologist was taken to a museum in Munich. And unfortunately the museum was just across the street to the Nazi party headquarters. So, in 1927, the Allied Forces bombed Munich and the Spinosaur fossil was crushed to bits.

Spinosaur got its name from the elongated spine bones coming out of its back to form a huge sail or fin. It is still a mystery why the Spinosaurus has the sail on its back. It could have been to cool the Spinosaurus down, as the continuous movement and since the sail has a huge surface area without much addition of volume so the warm blood in the creature would go up into the sail and the heat will escape, then the cooled blood would come down to the body, hence cooling the dinosaur

down. Another thought for the sail of a Spinosaurus was that instead of keeping the dinosaur cool, it might have been for the males to look cool. The sail must have been used to show off to mates or might also have been to show which one dominated, but not enough fossils were found to prove that only the males had the sails. Now a new theory is arising about Spinosaurus’s sail, it could have been for fishing. Like the Heron, when it casts a shadow on a water body the fish are attracted to the shade so they come towards it, and if any fish swim within range of its beak, it would snatch it. Similarly, the Spinosaurus could have used its sail in the same way. So not only did Spinosaurus rule the land so did it dominate the waters.

Spinosaur was huge. He was about as long as an 18 wheeler truck. Size matters, but the weaponry matters more. The skull of the Spinosaur was shaped very much

like the modern day crocodilian skulls. But their way of hunting remained a history for a long time as the first fossil of the Spinosaur didn’t have teeth. Only recently was a fossil found in the Kem-Kem desert of Morocco. And this fossil had teeth, so the long unknown mystery of the hunting style of a Spinosaur was cracked. This fossil was taken to the museum of natural history in Italy. A group of scientists led by Cristiano Dal Sasso discovered that the teeth of a Spinosaur had the right shape and spacing for puncturing and grabbing, rather than the teeth of a Tyrannosaurus rex which was made for tearing. They were very much like the teeth of a modern day crocodilian. Crocodilians have the most powerful bite forces of any animals that have been measured. But they don’t have teeth for tearing. They would tear a piece of their prey by gripping a portion of it and then going into the death roll. And by the mass of their body they would tear a part of the prey off. But a Spinosaur was too big to roll. Crocodilians have another way of ripping off portions of the prey material; they would grab some part, for instance, a forelimb then they would swing it one way and forcibly swing it the other and the mass of the prey tears the limb off. And apparently, Spinosaur used a very similar technique. It

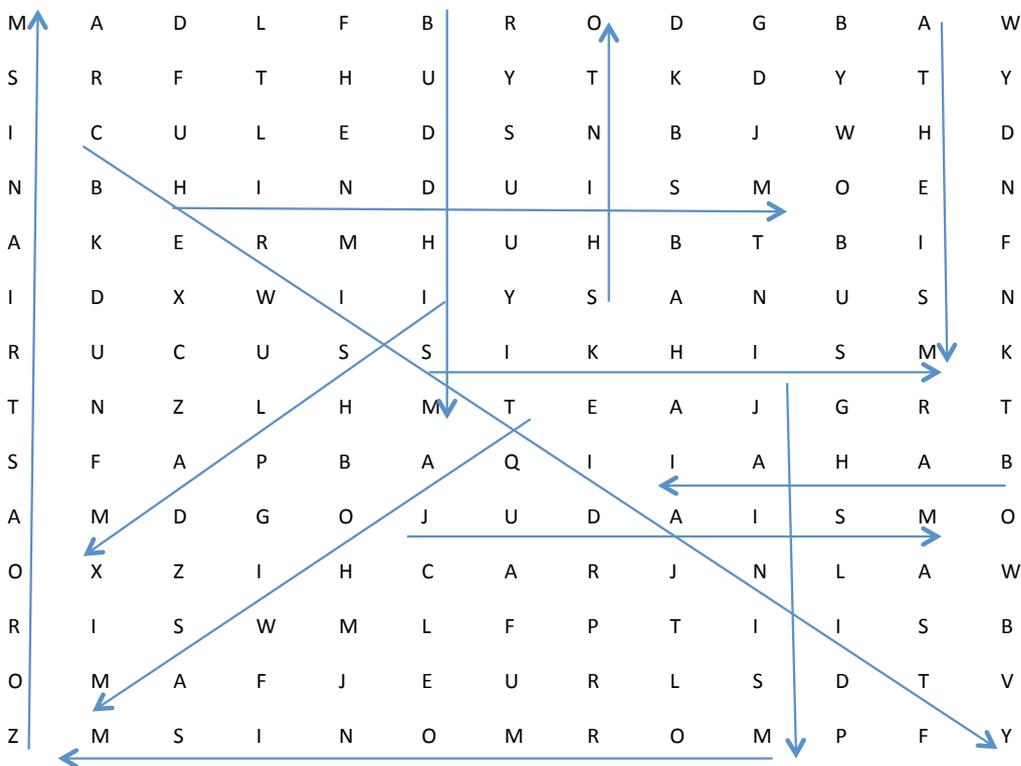
would hold on to a prey material and swing it from one way to another and the neck of the prey would snap and the chunks of meat would be ripped out. Between its neck snapping and the huge chunks of meat being pulled out the prey wouldn't last very long.

Spinosaur also had another deadly weapon-its claws. They were 6-10" long, possibly longer. And unlike the pathetically small arms of other predatory dinosaurs, Spinosaur looked more like a body builder with enormous claws. The claws of modern predators like the polar bear, the grizzly bear and the Siberian tigers could leave us humans with a nasty wound, those are nothing compared to the claws and arm of a Spinosaur. In USA scientists and special effects team have joined hands to resurrect this monster. They have made an artificial arm of a Spinosaur. They measured the strength of the arm and tested it on modern objects, such as two pieces as rubber jell which they thought of as the skin of the dinosaurs at that time. They also tested it on metal such as the car door, which is the modern of prehistoric armor.

Spinosaur was great at what he did. But 95 million years ago, this creature vanished. The world changed around it, but Spinosaur and its lineage didn't adapt. It was like an economy, everything went just right for a million years and then one thing can go out of balance and there goes that species. When the world adapted and Spinosaur didn't, the size and its other adaption were just not right for that time. After the climate changed the first to die were the large plant eaters like the Paralitans, so it couldn't find food. And when you're that big, you need to eat all the time. So Spinosaur was forced to scavenge. For small predators, like the Velociraptors, the climate change was not much of a problem. But a Spinosaur was no match for small pack hunters like them. And there was another problem with the Spinosaur, if it rolls over, because of its elongated backbones, it would break its back and die.

Spinosaur was truly a huge killer monster, but who knows what other monsters lie, still to be discovered and resurrected.

World Religion Word Search SOLUTION



Across Seven Seas

- Aakriti Narang, Grade X

The world...it's so huge, and yet so small. Some of us are lucky enough to explore it beyond our own boundaries and limitations whereas others are confined to four walls. Some of us receive the opportunity to mingle up with people from other cultures and are given the chance to go into depths of their livelihood while others remain restricted to their hometown. I am one of the lucky people described above.

Romania...One of the few places that is extraordinarily amazing but most of the readers will have no knowledge about, besides due to the medal won by a Romanian lady in the Olympics. My mother had been posted to Romania four years ago. When I first heard the news, I was clueless as to where the country existed on the map; you could argue that I was young but my geography wasn't that poor. After being told several times by mum, I grasped a few facts about my future home, placing me in a decent position to be able to describe Romania to my friends and relatives. At first it was quite bizarre having to add '...it's in Europe' while informing the news about our transfer but after I arrived in Romania, I didn't regret it at all.

There was no direct flight from New Delhi to Bucharest (the capital), so we had to travel via Germany. I don't know whether its fate or not, but every time I travel in a flight I end up starving by the time we arrive, which is why my first impression of the country wasn't so good. As time progressed, I found out more about the hidden wonders of this place. The saying 'don't judge a book by its cover' was proved to be correct yet again. Transportation is very affordable and travelling in buses is free for children under eleven years of age (yes, you read that right). You don't feel the need to possess a vehicle in Bucharest. The people are extremely friendly. Speaking of people, the youth had their own charm.

Every youngster looked like they'd just popped out of the cover of a Vogue magazine. It was unbelievable, how perfect their features and their appearances were. I was dazzled, and couldn't resist myself from staring at the girls in my class during the early days, which did lead to a 'creeper-ish' reputation I gained at the start. As academic years went by, the same young, beautiful girls grew into bold and stunning ladies that made me feel proud that I was part of their gang.

Beauty and affordability aren't the only things I was attracted to; it was the countryside that was astounding. The moment you set foot outside the busy and hectic life of the city, you'll realize the true glory and relish every second of seeing greenery. The countryside has been beautifully preserved and maintained up until today's date, whereas there are countries experiencing excessive urban sprawl. Huts and traditional houses have been built skillfully and no matter where you look, the view is picturesque. It's as if you've entered an entirely new world and the mountains at the back add to the scene. Houses are multicoloured, castles and historical buildings haven't lost their charm and every person has their own fruits grown in their backyard, giving a very cosy and old fashioned atmosphere to the place.

The blue skies greatly compliment the sun's rays during the summer, and during the winter the snow falls heavily throughout the country, covering every man-made item in a haze of pure white and decorations are put into place as the nation begins to enter the festival season to welcome Christmas and the New Year. However, despite having personally observed all the luxuries of living in a foreign country, I would like to mention that east or west, Home is the best. Since I began talking about festivals, I am reminded that Durga Puja is just round the corner so I would like to wish all my readers a very happy Durga Puja.

Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words. Keep your words positive because your words become your behaviors. Keep your behaviors positive because your behaviors become your habits. Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values. Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny.

The only devils in this world are those running around inside our own hearts, and that is where all our battles should be fought.

- M.K Gandhi

DRAWINGS



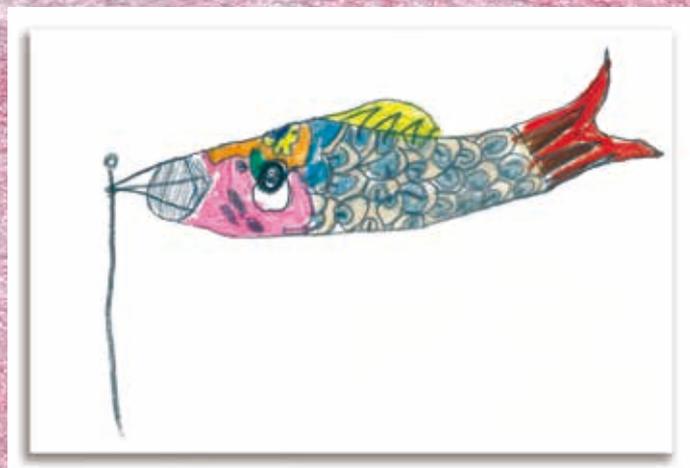
My Family, by Ayuona Gupta 4 yrs.



Fish, by Maya Ghosh 7 yrs.



Sunny Day, by Ashmita Pal 5 yrs



Koi Nobori, by Shanvir Sandhar Grade II



Sketch, by Manav Ghosh 5 yrs.

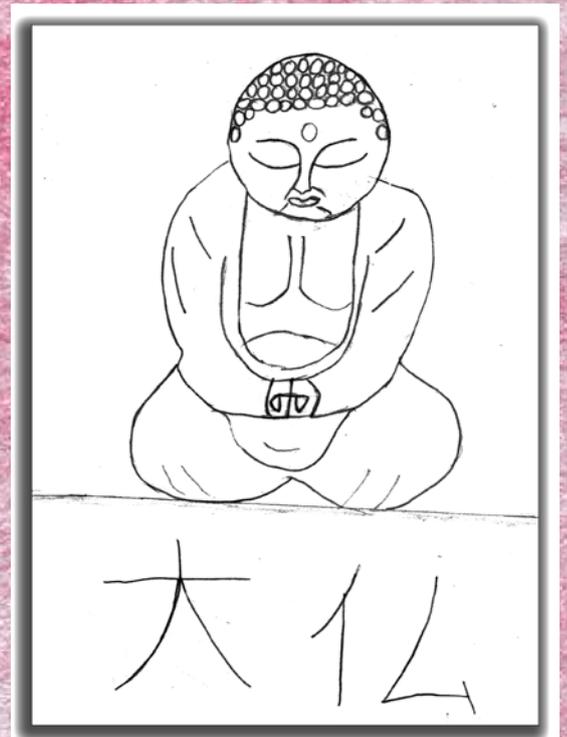


Ma Durga by Ayushi Baidya Grade VII

Madhubani art
by Nimisha Anand, Grade V



Ganesha by Kavya, Grade VII



Dai Butsu by Aryan Sharma Grade III



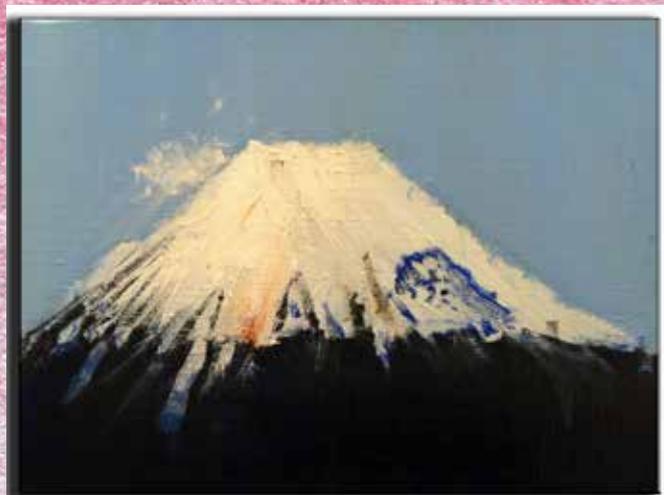
Fruit Basket by Tuhin Nag Grade V



Rain by Arnab Karmakar 5yrs

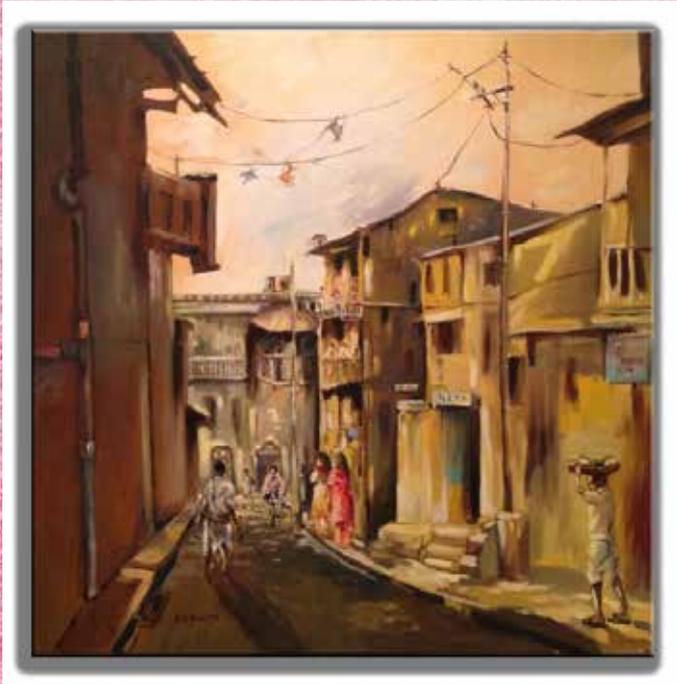


Sketch by Saptrishi Grade VIII



Mt.Fuji by Krish Kothari Grade IV

Arts



Street, by S.C Jain



Blossoming Lady,
by Sushmita and Amrita Pal



Red and Blue, by Sanchita Ghosh



Rose, by Meeta Chanda

Photography



Bulbul, by Santanu Nag



Lily, by Sanjib Chanda



Fishing , by Stephan Cotton

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR 2011-2012

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
ITEM	AMOUNT	ITEM	AMOUNT
Opening Balance on July 31, 2011 from 2010-2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In bank a/c • Cash in hand 	Yen 639,246 Break up - Yen 368,605 Yen 270,641	Expenses for Durga Puja, Anjali printing, Saraswati Puja, Poila Boisakh Celebration, Community meetings, Storage of Durga Pratima, Hall rentals, rehearsals etc.	Yen 2,070,067
Collection by Subscriptions, pronami, advertisements in Anjali etc.	Yen 2,054,808	Closing balance on July 11, 2012 (carried forward to 2012 – 2013) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In bank a/c • Cash in hand 	Yen 623,987 Break up – Yen 279,371 Yen 344,616
TOTAL	Yen 2,694,054	TOTAL	Yen 2,694,054

SINCERE THANKS FROM
Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan
www.batj.org

For assistance on the occasion of Durga Puja on October 8, 2011 –

- Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Chandrani for providing Shanti Masala tea for tea time
- Mr. and Mrs. Biswanath Paul for providing flowers for the Puja
- Mr. and Mrs. Prabir Patra for providing sweets for the Puja (from India)

For assistance on the occasion of Saraswati Puja on February 4, 2012 –

- Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Chandrani: Shanti Masala Chai for tea time
- Mr. and Mrs. Ranjan Das for providing sweets for the Puja (from India)

Anjali Editorial Team

