

Department of English



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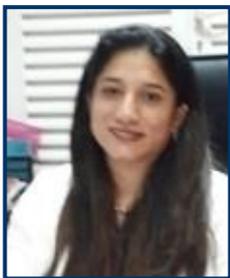
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POEMS



BEAUTY OF NATURE

HAYA FATIMA RIZVI - 8A

Nature is greenery with in the trees,
The oceans, the forests, and the pleasant breeze.
Wherever we look where ever we go,
The flowers will bloom and the trees will grow.

The sun, the moon, the clouds up high,
The beautiful stars up in the sky.
And no one can judge the beauty of snow,
And the rivers in which the waters flow.

The shining grass, the melodious rains,
The lovely everlasting plains,
The glimmering leaves, the sunny fields,
Fill me up with joy and glee.

Looking out the window at night,
You see a humble silent queen,
Surrounding her, her soldier's light.
took day's throne to settle her regime.

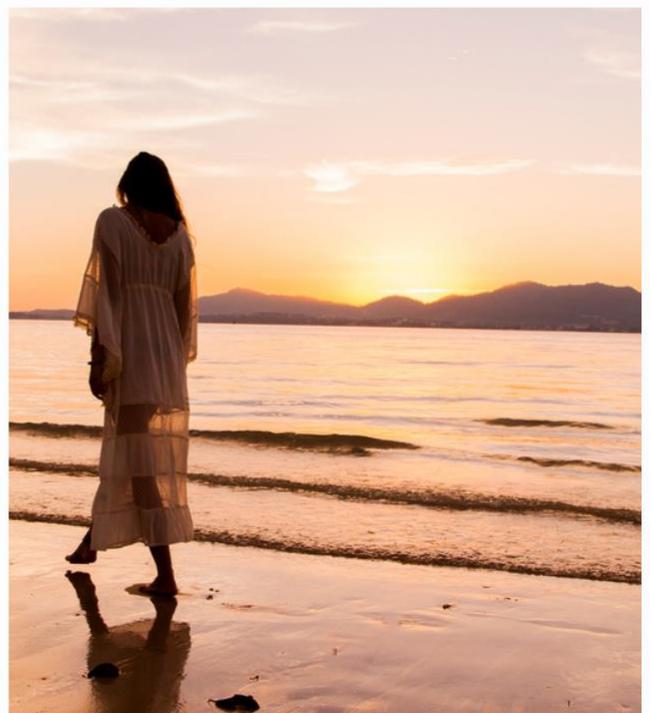
And when they meet again at dawn,
That queen has once again foregone.
Her soldiers take back their lights,
And prepare for the next dusk of fight.

And deep in the forest once you go,
And look and all the trees that've grown...
The birds chirping all around,
Tranquility and peace from sky to ground.

And the mountains, far away from man,
How alluringly strong they stand.
Some covered with grass and some with snow,
Each have their own distinctive glow.

And when you take a walk on the beach,
Moving along the endless shore,
With the sand In between your feet,
this beauty if lost, can't be restored.

The feeling I get when I look at this view,
Which past these years has only grew?
The beauty of nature is one of a kind,
Something we should always keep in mind.



NATURE

RACHAEL THOMAS - 8A

The environment with its treasures,
All so countless to measure.
Fish and whales in the deep blue waters.
Life in the sea, So alive.

Forests with terrestrial life,
Cold, freezing mountain peaks
And hot, tiring deserts,
Life among the trees alive.

Sky so blue with air so clean,
Only sun, moon and stars to see,
Eagles and vultures take their turn,
Life in the sky so alive.



EXTRA MILES

AYUSH VIJAY – 8N

Moving mountains
Walking through hell
Going extra miles, she smiles with **twinkle in her eyes**
Going extra miles, she smiles with expecting absolutely nothing in return,
Teaching me to fight back tears
Teaching me to walk the earth without fears
Gifting me with memories that will never disappear,
The first friend
The best friend
The forever friend,
Giving me love that lasts eternity
And planting seeds of certainty,
She said one day I will fade away
But that smile with twinkle in the will stay
And her love will convey,
And when she hears me calling,
Closing both eyes, she smiles with **twinkle in her eyes!**

TWINKLE IN HER EYES

HUDA FATHIMA - 8D

Behind the twinkle in her eyes,
What does she hold?
Pain and secrets untold.

She has an urge to scream,
And for once,
To be heard and her eyes with tears.

Gleam, but she can't; there's no one to hear,
She'll have to swim against the stream alone.

And when she reaches the end,
She will be stronger than before.



A PATHWAY OF LIFE

PRAPTHI PRASANNA KUMAR - 6E

This is a journey without a stop,
This is a journey which starts with a pop.

Summer, Winter, Autumn, Spring
Or anytime you can do anything!

This is a pathway to grow your mind,
Which is better than staying behind.

Don't judge a book by its cover.
If you start reading, then you will discover.

If you like it, it's good
Because it will give you the best mood.

Read a page and learn how to fly
Because a little can take you to the sky.

At this time, if you don't know what to do,
Just relax and start reading a book.

Play, eat, cry or cook
But what is better than reading a book

THE WORLD BETWEEN THE LINES

AMAN PRAVEEN KUMAR – 8N

A door opens; every time you open a book,
which leads you to worlds, only in your mind.
You are lost, counting the places you were took,
all those exhilarating sights, unable to find.

A palace, a castle, a jungle, another world;
all kinds of places, right under your word.
The mighty dragon, the kind dwarf, the pretty princess and the knight,
new people, great memories, that fill the spaces of the twilight.

An enemy you can't confront, an enemy that shows you the way,
a book will lead you, to places and places astray.
A friend that accepts, a friend who appreciates,
a book will accompany you all the way.

On the armchair, on the bed,
you open the world to freedom;
time is lost, conscious is lost,
in the world between the lines.



THE DROPLETS

PREMSHRUTHI SNEHA – 6D

A drop of rain is like a knock on the door,
Saying "I am in! I am in!",
Do you know how it feels ?
when the glacial, frost, icy water drop fall on you?

Wow! A miniature drop can give you
marvellous and magnificent feeling.

PLOP,

PLOP,

PLOP,

PLOP

As the rain hits the roof, like two little kids brawling,
I see the prepossessing beauty of my garden, with the icy
droplets.

I have plenty and plenty more to tell,
but I rather stop now as your valuable time is ticking!"

Tick Tock!

Tick Tock!

Tick Tock!





OPEN A BOOK

ALITA SHIJU - 6E

Open a book and
you will find
people and places
of every kind.

Open a book
and you can be
anything you want
to be.

Open a book and
you can share
wondrous words you
find in there.

Open a book
To read...
You read to me
and I read to
you!!

WISTFUL

HAFSAH RAHMAN - 8D

Walking across the sky
All for you, I might sigh.
Day by day as spring lasts
We still act like outcasts.

Now going to the past
As if it is all glassed.
Transparently,
Being vulnerable, incoherently
No hope or escape.

Dislike takes over,
As cold as October,
Your icy soul.

Melancholy rules my brain
The somber rain
Draws me slowly, but steadily
A blurred image of me
Like a bird who wants to be free.



BEHIND THE TWINKLING EYES

HUDA FATHIMA - 8D

Behind the twinkle in her eyes
What does she hold?
Pain and secrets
Untold.

She has an urge
To scream,
And for once,
To be heard

And her eyes with tears, Glean
But she can't
There's no one to hear.
She'll have to swim against the stream alone

And when she reaches the end,
She will be stronger than before.



IT'S SUMMER TIME

HAYA LUKMAN - 6B

It's sun and shade.

It's water to wade.

It's frogs and bugs.

Grass for rugs.

It's eating outside.

It's a tree – swing ride.

It's dogs and boys

And a lot of noise.

It's dew in the morn.

It's tomatoes and corn.

It's a hot sunny sky.

That's why I like summer!

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

AYSHA IQBAL – 6A

I am not good at everything,
But I am great at something.

Don't care about what others say,
Or else you will feel like it's a rainy day.

If your determination is strong,
Nobody will get you wrong.

Stay sure and endure and
that is the cure to being insecure.

Stay in the right track, never look back,
Or else concentration you will lack.



EARTH IS MY HOME

BASILA RAMSA - 6B

Earth,
Home to you and me.
And living things like whales and trees,
Earth, the third planet in a row,
It has towers, buildings and volcanoes.

It has one moon, shining bright.
But don't be fooled, it is reflected light,
Earth has a lot of history,
But how to end GLOBAL WARMING,
It is still a mystery.

Don't worry, if we all come together,
We can end it all together,
Because we are part of Mother Earth,
And mother Earth is part of Me.

JOURNEY OF LIFE

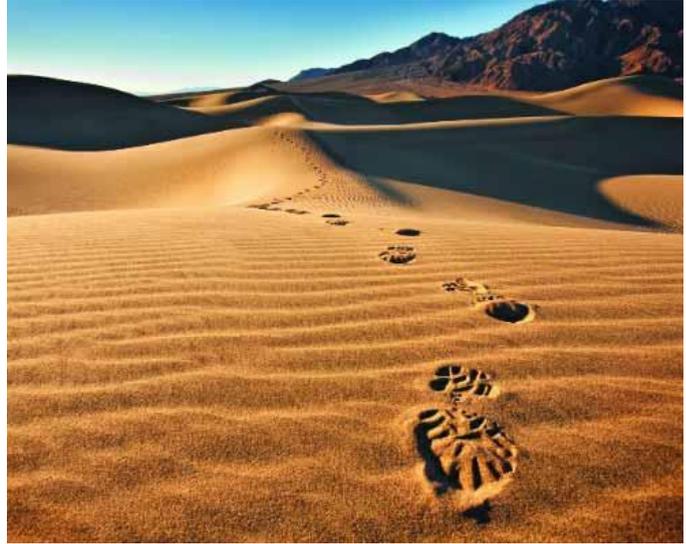
RUPSA RUPAM CHAKRABARTI - 6B

In the journey of life,
Will come across the people of various types,

Have to learn from them without any hypes,
Maybe sometimes go against our likes.

Experience will come likewise,
In the journey of life, we will become nice.

Have to stick to the aim,
And have to establish our name.



THE TWINKLING EYES

ADITI NAIR - 6B

Here are her eyes,
Twinkling like a shining star.

Her eyes remind me of the stars,
Glittering like a fire-fly.

Her eyes are the mirror of truth,
Sparkling like a diamond.

Her eyes are the feelings of mind
Blinking like a cloud.

Her eyes tell a fairy-tale
Shining like a melody.

OUR FRIEND THE SUN

MARIA SUVI - 6A

She is a star,
In the sky she lives, shining brightly.

She makes us bright with her shining light,
Lots of energy she gives, which brings life on our planet.

She makes us all active,
She is the cause of our Earth's existence.

She is in the center of our solar system,
Without her, the sky would be dark.

We would not be having light, only darkness,
All things depend on her; she is the Sun.



OUT IN SPACE

FATHIMA RIZA - 6A

Outside in space, where it's so dark,
We can't hear a bark!
Where all the stars and planets are settled,
And all the asteroids fight their battles.

The only thing that we can do, is race with all the big
waves.

Where all the stars twinkle at night,
we can see them shining, nice and bright.
Where all the meteorites find their home,
And if they can't, they simply roam.

Let us go there for a vacation.....
We can have fun
And much more recreation!

LOCKED UP

SEEKERS - 6N

I cannot fly,
I cannot see,
I cannot travel,
I am locked in a cage,
but I want to be free.
Oh my god
What should I do,
I like to see the nature,



SCIENCE IS NICE

ABAAN FAIZ - 6R

Science is everywhere...
in trees, flowers, land, water and air...

With Science comes knowledge...
To appreciate this, it is not a must to be in college...

There's science in a butterfly
There's science to the bee...

There's science in the way we breathe...
There's science in the way we see...

We cannot live without science...
As there would be no appliance...

Science is no grind...
It is a mere application of the mind...

It's commendable how our world revolves around
science
The existence of everything on this planet and
universe are its signs



FOREST

MAANASA MAKESH – 6A

Oh, lovely forest so dense,
How come every time you stand so immense!

I know that everybody is afraid of you,
Just because you have wilderness!

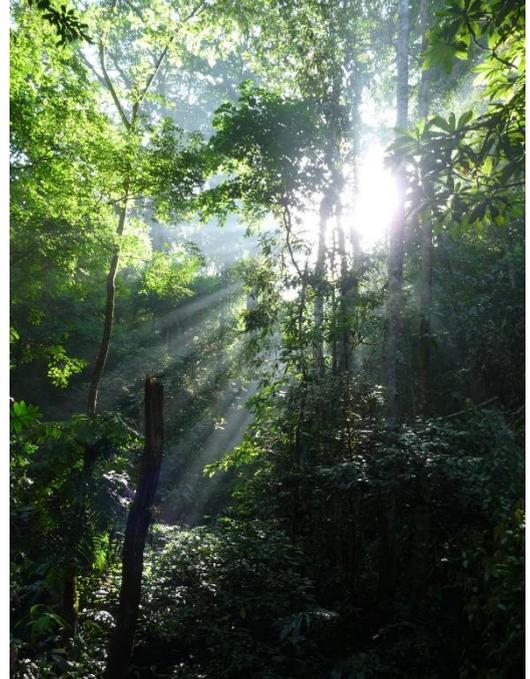
But I don't know why they don't be brave,
To go to such a wonderful place!

Well, I don't fear you and hope everyone won't fear you too.
No one knows how to express gratitude towards you.

You stand and give us fresh air every day.
May it be sun, rain or wind; you will always stand strong, no
matter what's wrong.

You don't only do all this for us humans, but also for the animals.
And I feel sorry for you as everyone cuts you down.

No matter how much we hurt you, you still bare everything and
help us out.



PASSING CLOUDS

ROZELLE ANN - 6A

Yonder did I see a dark cloud!
My heart was filled with fear untold.

The storm would fill my life distraught.
The thunder roared with all its strength...

The lightning pierced the clouds above
My fear increased as I laid bare.

Then I heard a voice say- rise up and continue your
way
It's just a passing cloud that goes away.

Soon the dawn will have its say and so,
In every problem in life will I say.
It's just a passing cloud that goes away make them,
Most of the time it's annoying.

THE NIGHT TIME

MOHAMMED ZAYAN – 6O

The sun goes down and the moon comes up
Making us understand that it's time to rest
Shining stars start to dazzle up

The shining moon appears in the dark sky
Supper time, let's eat our food
After that take a nice shower
Game night with friends and family
But we can never stay up late till midnight

So, it's time to go to bed
So, get into your pajama
Cuddle in your bed
Close your eyes and have a good night sleep
Till the dawn breaks in.



THE SONG OF THE RED BIRD

JOSHITA CHINNASAMY - 6C

Swept lightly by the south wind,
The elm-leaves softly stirred.
And in their pale green clusters,
There straightway bloomed a bird!

His glossy feathers glistened,
With dyes as richly red.
As any tulip flaming,
From out the garden bed.

But ah, unlike the tulips,
In joyous strain, ere long,
This red-bird flower unfolded,
A heart of golden song!



MY DAD

PARISH SHAH - 6C



I still remember the time a few years ago,
when you gave me your hand to sleep instead of a pillow.

Your day and nights work, which gave us
food to eat.

You have a kind, and generous heart as you have always fed the poor.

You disciplined me when I went on the wrong path, but I also saw the
deep love inside your heart.

Thank You DAD,
You mean the world to me.

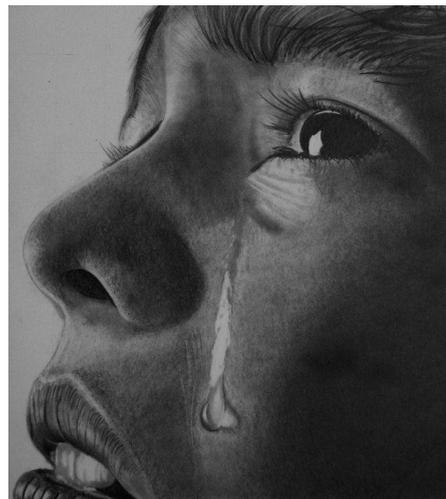
A SILENT TEAR

BARSHA SRI - 7D

Just close your eyes and you will see,
All the memories that you have of me.
Just sit and relax and you will find,
I'm really still there inside your mind.

Don't cry for me now I'm gone
For I am in the land of song.
There is no pain, there is no fear
So dry away that silent tear.

Don't think of me in the dark and cold
For here I am, no longer old
I'm in that place that's filled with love
Known to you all, as "up above"



FRIENDSHIP

VAISHNAVI AGRAWAL - 7D

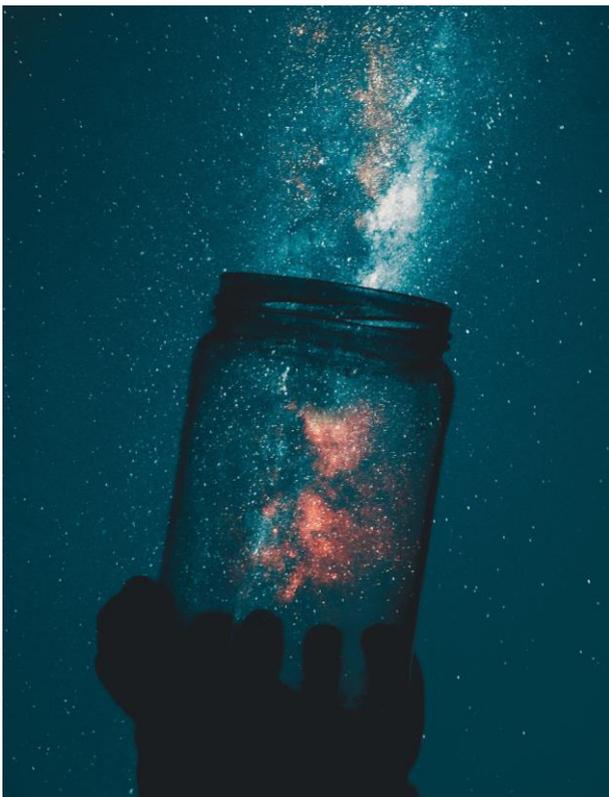
Friends are the shining lights,
Who make our lives bright?
Selection of friends is must,
Or our life will rust.
Friends bring glow on our face,
And leaves everywhere their trace.
With friend's life is just a boon,
And without friends it is just a bane.
Friends are just like moon,
After sun coming soon.
They strengthen our might,
They fight for our right.
O 'friends! Please hear,
When I am in fear,
You are always there.



LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

MIRIYAM ELSA MANOJ - 7D

Life is beautiful...
When it's filled with laughter and joy,
It is a feeling so pure to heart
Sparkling stars of care and love makes life more
beautiful!!!
Joy fulfils the life while caring and sharing makes lives
together possible
What makes life more beautiful? Accepting the person.
Doesn't matter who they are...
A blue sky, and the birds that fly
Adds beauty to nature
Life will begin to glow, when
Kindness, love and peace will dance together
Life as beautiful when people live in tolerance and
harmony
So, enjoy your special moments
Like a butterfly in the sun
Life is as beautiful as you allow it to be,
Make it beautiful with your kind deeds and enjoy every
moment of it.
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL because the creator had made it
BEAUTIFUL...
Just like you and me.



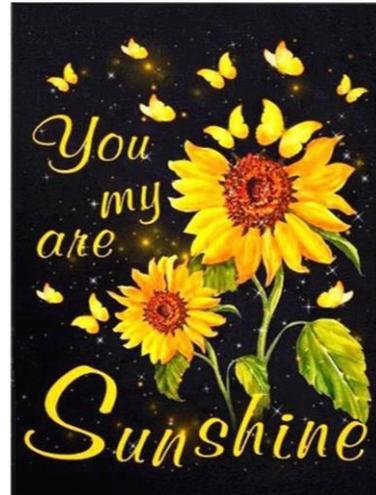
YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE

ABIGAIL LIBERA FERNANDES - 7D

Today is not a holiday
It is not even your birthday
But I still thought of sending
A message to my Friend

You make me laugh you make me smile
You ease my troubles for a while
When clouds are thick and grey
You put sunshine in my day

You are sweet and kind
A friend like you is hard to find.



FALLING ASLEEP

BUSHRA KHAN - 8B

While falling asleep,
My thoughts go too deep
Thinking about my dreams,
What do I do?
Do I speak or scream?
To achieve my dream.
How do I reach the sky?
Do I try or just cry?
Do I pass the rings,
To get on my wings?

I will have to pass the poisonous dragon,
I will have to be shot by the cannon,
To make my dreams happen.

Just think,
Then blink.
Love yourself to find yourself
They end here,
To become true someday.

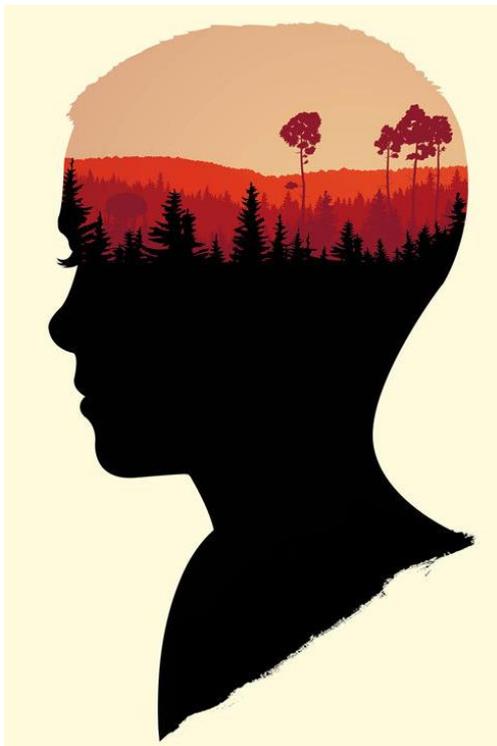
NEVER LOSE HOPE

ARSHA SUVITHLAL - 8B

Listen to the birds,
and the drip-dropping rain

Breathe in the air and
And overlook the pain.
Be kind and love yourself, and every being
Around you,

Never forget all the wonderful things
That will take place in the future
And never lose hope.



BIG WORLD...

ANN - 8D

Do we know each other
or are we just strangers
Were those lovely memories
Or just our imagination
The world might be so big
But you still try to fit
And sky can be so blue
Believe if it is true
A lie can hide the truth
But soon will it gloom again
Why keep changing sides
What will you gain?
The world might be so big
But you still try to fit
And sky can be so blue
Believe if it is true

DISCOVER YOUR TRUE YOU

TANISHA VASUDEVA - 8B

Remove the mask that you wear
To pretend like one of the clans.
Wear your true attire
The one that you truly own.

What makes you happy?
Is it playing a false character?
Or is it wearing someone else's crown.

Oh, my friend, be a free bird
The one who dares to claim the sky.
Find the unique you, the true you,
Wear your own crown with pride.

Be an explorer of yourself,
For none can do it like you.
You must discover your own movie
For the world to see it.

You are the master,
For your destiny.



NEVER GIVE UP

LENA ANN JOBY - 8B

When things go wrong,
When you feel that you are at a dead end,
When you want to smile,
but sadness takes over you,
You may rest, but never give up.

Life is full of struggles,
It is a road with twists and turns,
We all are destined to feel the pain,
We may feel to give up, but remember
Never give up no matter how hard it is.

Life is a race,
It may have many obstacles,
But we must tackle all the obstacles,
With confidence and positivity,
Try, try, until you succeed,
Never give up.

At the end, it will be worth the pain,
Even though the pace seems slow, do not give
up,
We might feel our goal is out of reach,
But we may reach the goal in another step,
If we never give up.

DO NOT QUIT

ASHBAH MERIM FRANCIS - 8C

When life seems to fall and you do not know what to do, take a
break but do not quit.

When you have sleepless nights and dark dreams, and you
feel you are worthless but remember not to quit.

When you only see the things that make you cry, have a quick
chat but do not quit.

When you're low and do not know what to do, and when
sometimes you might feel low, remember it will go.



TWINKLING EYES

ALEENA KHADEEJA SHIEK - 8C



The twinkle in her eyes

Never fades away.

It reminds me of the beautiful sky

Filled with lovely stars.

The calm of a quiet sea,

The joy of a morning spring.

The generous soul of hers

Sparkle in her eyes,

And the reason for me to shine,

I believe,

Is the twinkle in her eyes?

Her inspiring eyes.

Yes, the twinkle in my mother's eyes.

SAVE US!

IMMANUEL - 8P

The insects are beings too
They really need to live
For they shall rally too

In the corners you see us
You see us under your bed,
But have you lived with our eyes,
We need to roam, and we need freedom to live, they
protest!!!



LIFE OF AN INSECT

JOE JOSEPH - 8Q

Arsenic is bad for us
But humans don't care
Can't even live without seeing
Death of our kind.
Ethanol is used
For killing our brethren
Going to garden to see
Herbicides, Insecticides
Just for killing us all
Lead and Mercury too.
Not at all cool
Of course, we also use
Pesticides in the pool
Quiet destruction of insect kind
Rodenticides killing rats
Styrene butadiene
Trichloroethylene
U.S. produced 15 trillion lbs. of chemicals in 2007
Vinyl chloride
Water pollution is all your fault
Xylene is there too
You might not want to have
Zero tolerance to us in the future.

THE HYDRANGEA

Raced I down the hill, came across a beautiful sight
One Hydrangea there alone like a beautiful candlelight
Beside the building and beneath the tree
Like a vast never-ending sea
The Hydrangea, so beautiful and fascinating
The Hydrangea, the queen so mesmerizing
One sight of 'em, and your life is blessed
It removes from our mind, the expression of *distressed*
The wind blows, kissing their petals
That one task can give you many medals
Its beauty rules the land,
Its fragrance rules the air.
But then came a boy, running towards the flower,
With greedy eyes, picked he up the flower with all his power.
The hydrangea which always looked so beautiful,
Was now pleading to the merciful,
It beseeched, "Thee lord...Thee merciful, have mercy on this poor flower,
I just want to sit alone beneath the trees which always had me bower"
Anyone watching that sight...would start sobbing,
Because, the head which was always so proud was now bobbing.



SHIKHAR SURESH NAIR – 7N



TIME, THE GREATEST THEIF

SHIKHAR SURESH NAIR – 7N

Can you guess, what's the greatest thief of all time?
Well, the answer is there in the above line...
Of course, time is the greatest thief in the world!
It goes past us, without even muttering a word.

Neither World War, nor great Hitler can catch this little thief,
Neither Napoleon, nor Alexander can annex this thing.
If not great warriors, do you know who can defeat time?
Well, the answer is *Punctuality!*

A disciplined person can manage his time,
An undisciplined person, well...he'll be covered with grime!
Though time is a thief, it is also a teacher,
Which teaches us to become punctuality's archers!



MY BROTHER

SHIKHAR SURESH NAIR – 7N

It was a cold winter night; the trees were filled with snow.
I walked through the empty street; the wind was challenging to blow!
Then I felt a bump in my ragged shoe.
A voice then told, "Look below thy shoe, and you will know what to do!"
I was aghast and my eyes filled with tears,
That was for what, my parents had been suffering and sobbing for years.
I lifted it carefully in my young but weak hand,
My feet couldn't make me stand!
My own young brother...weak and timid,
My happiness...there was no limit!
I ran to my hut...built with straws.
I tripped over a rock...without any cause.
My tears fell right on my brother's eyes.
Who would grow up and be healthy and wise.
I yelled, "Mom...dad! Here's thy lost timid son,
I found him on the street...I didn't hesitate to run"
Out came my mother and father with a smile touched eye to eye,
We didn't know what to do...laugh, smile or cry.
We took him in the house, or perhaps our hut,
And fed him with the little ort.
He opened his eyes...and then he spoke,
"Brother"! And then we decided to name him 'Norther'.



HOME

JAI PRAMOD - 7P

The homes you see are quiet and neat,
But the one I live in is way too sweet.

With tiny prints on the wall,
From fingers of both big and small.

It's a beautiful place and our space,
That we very proudly embrace.

Although the pandemic did us bad,
Spending time with my family made me glad.



RAINBOW

AKSHAYA - 6D

Where do rainbows come from?

Where do they go?

These are some questions we might never know...

Does it live in the ground anywhere?

Or does it live in the air?

Does it live in the sky?

Or does it like to fly?

Is it shiny or glittery or is it just an unsolved mystery?

You will have to concentrate as well as collaborate...

To find out so that you do not have any doubt.



FRIENDSHIP

ARHANA - 6D

Friends are the sunshine of life
Well you know best friends are hard to find,
Hard to lose and forget.

I guess you know
Friends do not leave each other,
they stay for one another,
They are friends

Friends are those who come to your life,
Friends are those who eat a pie

Good friends are like stars
"Friends are Friends"





THE NIGHT SKY

TANISHKHA RAMESH - 6D

The stars in the night
Are bright with light
The moon that glows,
On the earth down below.

The cold breeze,
Making the air freeze
Oh, how I love the night!
With the lights so white
The constellations.
Such a beautiful creation!
But I know I will not get there,
The place so rare.

The owls that fly
Look so sly!
Look a shooting star
Faster than a Jaguar
The clouds that float
Trying to tell a note
So fluffy and soft
Wandering lost.

LIFE

LAAIQAH - 6D

Sometimes when things go wrong,
Somethings can cheer you up like a song!

You should have a smile every time,
like the one you have during playtime.

You have friends and a family,
who will always help you happily!

You have a teacher who will guide you,
For learning something new!

Everybody is there,
so you won't feel bare!

Let's thank everybody-
you will always have a place in my heart!



DEAR LIFE

MAITRI THAKKAR - 7C

If you want me to bow,
I will stand up straight.
You can knock me down today
But I will stand up tomorrow

If you want me to cry
I will gladly smile
I will laugh every day
And I will keep doing so till I die

If you want me to hate
I will share love
Depending on free will
And not just fate

If you want me to give up
I will struggle through
Continue fighting my battles
And I will never stop

If you want me to walk away
I will be going nowhere
You can push me over the edge
I will just climb up another way

If you want to break me
I will stay strong
Because I am able
to still see the beauty

So dear life, can't you see?
I am still a warrior
And there is no way you can ever defeat me



TIME, THE GREATEST THEIF

SHIKHAR SURESH NAIR – 7N

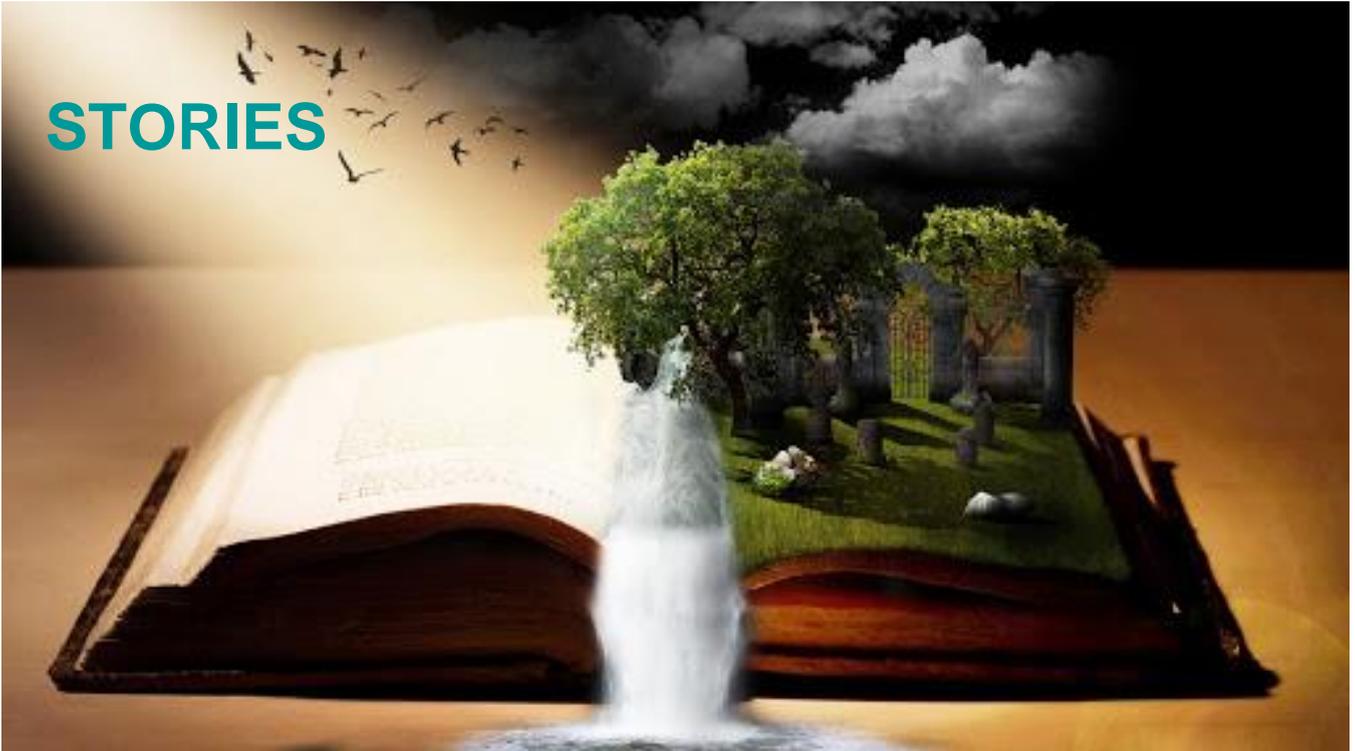
Can you guess, what's the greatest thief of all time?
Well, the answer is there in the above line...
Of course, time is the greatest thief in the world!
It goes past us, without even muttering a word.

Neither World War, nor great Hitler can catch this little thief,
Neither Napoleon, nor Alexander can annex this thing.
If not great warriors, do you know who can defeat time?
Well, the answer is *Punctuality!*

A disciplined person can manage his time,
An undisciplined person, well...he'll be covered with grime!
Though time is a thief, it is also a teacher,
Which teaches us to become punctuality's archers!



STORIES



Pivotal

I wasn't very close to my grandfather. He rarely showed signs of affection, and always seemed to be content with his own life. He loved grooming himself, especially his hair. His friendly attitude gave him a lot of friends, and he spent days talking to them, leaving a gap between him and his grandchildren. The only exception was my brother and one of my cousin sisters. They had the same level of curiosity and imagination as him, which is why he was close to them more than me or any of my other cousins. Last summer vacation, during my family reunion at my aunt's house, he told us about a pivotal moment in his life. He told us the story of how he left home at the age of 12 without anyone's help, which helped him be more resilient and responsible. Though he said it to help us create a sense of responsibility, I think it's a wonderful story that makes us feel nostalgic though we didn't experience it ourselves.

The story begins at my grandfather's native place. I forgot the exact name of the town, but it was somewhere in Thrissur, Kerala. He was the only boy amongst five daughters. All his sisters were headstrong and draconian. They used to wake up early in the morning, and never did not finish that day's work. They were skilled in many things, and were exceptionally good at balancing their work. My grandfather's sisters used to take care of him. He was closest to the youngest daughter, Rosie. She was still a teenager, and used to tell him tales of mighty kings and brave queens. When he turned 11, Rosie left town to study in the next state. He was sad and longed for her to come back. During those days, travelling took a long time, thus people used to travel once in five years or so.



My grandfather was soon the responsibility of the second youngest daughter, who was the strictest among the five. My grandfather was soon fed up of her 'work only- no fun' rules, and decided to leave town.

On one cold evening, he packed all his things into a big bag and left town. He walked long miles and spent days sleeping inside huge pipes. On some days, he had to sleep with an empty stomach. He travelled all the way to Chennai, Tamil Nadu. On the way, he made several pits stops where he begged for money.

That's when he met a man named Kishore. He was the owner of a dairy company and was really old. He couldn't work anymore, so seeing my grandfather's pitiable state, he offered him a job. My grandfather had to milk cows.

For the first few days, he was happy with what he did. But soon, he regretted his decision, as he met the owner's wife, who was just like his strict sister. She wanted my grandfather to work ten hours a day and didn't want him to play with any other boys. My grandfather was only paid 7 rupees for his work daily.

Sometimes, when he does something wrong on accident, like dropping a bag full of hay, the owner's wife used to hit him with a whip. He used to stay in dirty rooms, riddled with rats and other pests. Thankfully, his food was clean. The owner's wife provided him with enough water and food, but that was only because she wanted him to work properly.

When he turned 15, he finally saved enough to return home to his family. He bought a bullock cart and used that to come back to Kerala. During his five-day trip, he started noticing more of Tamil Nadu's beauty. He didn't know if it was because he became more observant, or because the feeling of success enhanced his vision. He described the scenery as 'elegant' and 'unique'. Or to quote his exact words:



"The sun's rays were sprawled across the sky, and the water between the paddy fields were shining brightly. Everyone looked so happy. From the men who were harvesting wheat, to the children playing cricket. Even the bulls seemed to walk merrily. A lady selling sarees had an uncanny resemblance to my favorite sister Rosie, and if it wasn't for the cart, I would've run down to meet her. The place had a unique look to it, and it's funny I never noticed it when I came there. The elegance in the way the shops are designed is something that deserves to be acknowledged." When my grandfather reached home, he was greeted with a hug from his favorite sister. Rosie told him that she stopped studying after he left home. His mother ran to him as soon as Rosie announced his arrival. His father didn't show any physical signs of affection, but his twinkling eyes were enough for my grandfather.

After he finished his story, he looked outside the window. Though we attacked him with questions, pulling at the hem of his shirt to get answers, he didn't answer anything. Instead, he just dozed off in his rocking chair with a smile, already lost in his imagination.

ANNJALIN MARIA - 8D



The Rememberable Halloween



It was a dark, gloomy, dusky, and silent night, and I was crossing the big circular park while returning home. The park lights were not working, and it was pitch black. I was really intimidated.

I noticed on the other side of the park shadow sprinting by, but I couldn't make out who or what it was. Few minutes later there was dense smoke which was naturally making a cloud around me, that was suffocating, and I completely moved my hands to prevent that

entering my nose and eyes.

For diverting myself from the horrific feeling, I took out the mobile and my headphones and started listening to the news. To make the situation more tensed and scarier the very first news I heard was about a CRIMINAL who ran breaking the jail. The news being flashed about him confirmed that he used to petrify people before killing them. I was trying to stop the news, but my fingers froze.

I gathered courage and started moving ahead. I felt someone was watching me. I shrugged it off and took more steps and felt something tug on my coat, my breath had left me, and fear shivered ran all the way down my spine. I turned around slowly to see who it was, it was just a branch of a tree that gave me a sigh relief. That time the most joyous moments of my life ran into my mind it was just like I had given up.

As I reached the swings' area, I heard the movement of the swings; I slowly twisted my head, sweat ran down my forehead, when I saw toward the swing it was nothing except a cat. I got my life back. Soon, I recalled my friend Millie's house was at some distance. In hope that I will spend the night there, I continued moving.

I was happy Millie's house was near. I heard a sound of footsteps. They became louder and bolder which gave me the idea of someone coming closer. I stopped. I looked back. I saw no one. I heard nothing. There was a shadow lurking behind a car. At first glance I thought it was a cat then I looked once more and I thought it was far too enormous to be a cat.

Suddenly in-front of me I had piercing red eyes that just looked through me... I screamed and the next thing I knew, it was so close to my face I could smell its breath. It smelled of raw meat and blood. I managed to turn and tried to run, but my feet could not move. I felt the hands wrap itself around me and it felt so cold... So, a cold, ... that I could not breathe. I started gasping for air and tried to free myself from this thing. I cried out in pain as its arms squeezed tighter. I felt it hands on my throat, "Oh help"! But my voice was gone. I was struggling, trying to get away. Then I heard a voice, "Chill."



I turned back it was my friend Millie, she shouted out Happy Halloween. I recollected my senses and asked her was that u frightening me all around. She contentedly said, "Yes." I became vexation and said, "that was the worst thing."

We both walked back home and had a good sleep.

GAURI ROHATGI - 8D



The scary Motel

It was one of my summer vacations. My family members decided to go for trekking in a hilly area. My father suggested Kolli Hills and he told us that there is big waterfall which is a must to see.

As it was my first experience to go for trekking, I was so excited. I packed up my things and hopped into the car. My father started driving the car, I was listening to my favorite music and my mother was looking at all our pictures which we took the previous year and she was making fun of all the incidents that happened there. Then we sang some songs and had a lot of fun. Suddenly, our car tyre got punctured. The hilly area was far from our place and it was evening already, so we decided to stay in a hotel. While we were searching for a hotel, A person came to us and told that there was only one motel nearby. So, we were forced to spend that evening in that motel. There was a beautiful garden with water fountain outside the motel which attracted me to spend some time there.



Then, we went inside the motel and asked the receptionist that we want a room. They gave the room key and told us the room number is 13. We went to our room to freshen up before dinner. The room was well appointed, and we all loved the room. I was extremely tired, so I hit the sack for a while. When I closed my eyes, I felt like someone was passing by me in a flash. Immediately I opened my eyes to see who was that but to my surprise I could see only my parents arranging the things. I thought that it might be a dream. Meanwhile my father called me to have dinner. After a while, our doorbell rang, and my father went to open the door. A waiter was standing there, and he told us that he came there to serve us the dinner. While we were having our dinner, the doorbell rang again. My father went to open the door again, It was quiet dark, and no one was there. We thought that someone might have done it my mistake.

After some time, when we were resting, we heard tap water running in the bathroom and the tap was open. My mom said that "I had closed the tap properly and how could this happen?" We all were scared to stay in that room. My father told that "Tomorrow early in the morning itself we will vacate this room and go away from here." Then we all went to sleep. I was thinking about all the incidents that had happened since we reached there, like someone passing by me when I had a nap, the doorbell ringing and the tap was open automatically. Thinking of all those things I fell asleep. After some time, I was awakened by a thunderclap. I was terrified and went to my parents' room to inform them.

When I opened their room door, my parents were not there, and they had disappeared! I was horrified and went running around the room looking for them. I could not find them there, so immediately I opened the main door, to my surprise there was a red gift box with a writing "I am waiting"

RITHVIK RAJESH - 7N



You make the difference

My name is Bea, and I have always been different, ever since I was born. I was diagnosed to a condition called 'Vitiligo', a skin disorder where in pigment cells are lost. Because of that, I always looked different from my parents, elder brother and friends. I never faced any issues with my different skin tone in my early childhood years. I would investigate the mirror and admire and stare at my interesting skin, giggling at the patches spread all over. My brother said that it was a habit my parents found positively endearing.



As I started going to school, I started noticing minor things such as the kids not playing with me. I was alright with that since I preferred being away from crowd. But as soon as I entered first grade, I started paying more attention to my surroundings and saw how kids started actively avoiding me during recess and any other time outside the class. By that time, I had started trying to come out of my shell and would often take matters as interacting with my classmates in my own hands, but they were half – hearted attempts on my part simply due to force of habit. Deep down, I guess I was a little bit jealous of the naturally social butterflies in my class. They never seemed to have any problems with befriending people. I never considered telling my parents about my lack of regular conversation and

social awkwardness among my peers simply because it never once came to mind that I could go to them for advice. As I previously mentioned, I still had trouble conversing with my peers outside school.

I was not ostracized or bullied for my unique skin, so I didn't consider taking outside help, but what I didn't realize is that I was slowly being unknowingly isolated. My teacher noticed this and informed my parents in the parent – teacher conference. After that, I was given a lesson on how an isolating environment is not healthy for a person's mental and psychological health. But what was done was done. My parents thought it would be best if I start off with a clean slate.

I was transferred into a different school. My parents were considering sending me into a school for special children, but I decided against it since my skin did not necessarily interfere with my studies and it would be better for me to get accustomed with children like the ones in my previous schools. I joined in the second term, so naturally I was a bit nervous. But this time, I made note to actively participate in conversations in class and try to make friends.

This benefited me in many ways, such as my social awkwardness gradually disappearing, my grades increasing and my social circle becoming bigger. Some people still avoid me because of my skin disorder, and that's okay. I was made the odd one out simply because I did nothing to stop it. Now I know that my skin was never really the problem, it was my own acceptance to the treatment I received. I was the one who made me the odd one out, but I am never going to ever make that mistake again.

ADWITA NAGAR - 8C



The Mysterious Man



One fine day, Satish was standing at the balcony gazing at the sun, when something weirdly loud caught his attention. He took the stairs and ran down and saw a little blue light. He followed it and into the woods he went. The deeper he went the darker it got. After hours of walking he saw a little man whose face was covered.

"What do you want?" He asked. "Oh, nothing just a bit of a help!" Could you have lent me some of your youthfulness and beauty? "I would pay you a hundred thousand dollars." "A hundred thousand!" Wow! That is a lot of money," thought Satish. "Well I agree with you." "Okay then just hold my hand," said the mysterious man.

Soon enough Satish looked older now, but he was happy because he got the money that he asked. After

spending all his money, he gazed into the sky looking for hope and to his surprise he found the same light, followed it, and met the same man again. After repeating the same act for about 20 days Satish grew into a wealthy merchant, but you should have seen how old he was. He was so old that he was about to die. Finally, he did as his body could not hold up longer.

Moral of the Story: Be happy with what you have. By Mebin James.

It was Mohan's first day at the new school. He was feeling very nervous. He stood in a corner and watched the students who were laughing and talking excitedly. When he saw four senior students advancing towards him, he turned to the corridor and ran towards his class. Later that day, he went to the auditorium. As he entered, he saw the four boys again discussing something.

Mohan knew that they were up to something. The next day, he saw the four boys by the 1st grade corridor, taking money from a boy. So first, they ran behind him, now they were bullying 1st graders? He reported this to Principal Davis, who immediately called the four boys. He wanted them to settle the conflict. Mohan asked the boys, "Why were you running after me yesterday?" One of the boys replied, "You were a new student, and we had to show you your classroom."

This was not the kind of response he was looking for. Then he asked them, "Then what were you talking about at the auditorium when I entered?" The athletic-looking one replied saying, "We were planning our squad for the basketball championship." Mohan asked the last time, "Then why were you bullying that 1st grader yesterday?" The boy standing behind replied, "I was not bullying him. Ritik is my brother. I was giving him money for him to buy lunch." Mohan immediately apologized for accusing them. Later, they became friends. This was how Mohan made his first friends at his new school.

RON JACOB - 8P



One Chilly Winter Night....

It was a chilly winter night, I, Aura Star, a famous author in Hills Village, was walking home from a very long and tiring day at work. I had just been told to write a new book. But that was not the problem, the problem was that I didn't have any ideas! The most annoying thing about being an author is that sometimes you don't get any ideas and that can drive you crazy. But at that moment, I was enjoying my walk back home. The soft snow covered the ground, beautiful Christmas lights lit up the whole neighborhood, cute snowmen greeted me, as I reached my house. "Ahh.... Home sweet Home", I sighed to myself as I walked into my home. Then immediately I collapsed onto my soft armchair.

Then after relaxing for a while, I took a bath, wore a cozy robe, made myself a steaming cup of hot cocoa, lit up the fireplace and sat down to begin my new book. I was trying to come up with a story and a good title for it, as I sipped my hot cocoa. I thought and I thought and I thought some more, but nothing! "ugh!", I screamed in frustration. "Useless. Empty. Brain", I said to myself, banging my head on the desk. I went and got myself another cup of hot cocoa and a side of chocolate chip cookies, that my aunt had given me just this morning. I took a sip of the cocoa and a bite off the cookie as I thought.

"I can't do this! I am doing nothing here but snacking! Maybe I need some sleep!", I thought to myself. "No Aura, you can do this. Grandfather Eddie is going to be very proud of you if you do it. Forget about sleep and just concentrate here.", I gave myself a pep talk. My grandfather is the owner of our office and oversees every book before it is published. I thought for another hour maybe. Then without realizing it, I dozed off. But then I woke up to the sound of crashing, clanking and whispering in the kitchen.

I went towards the kitchen door with caution. I could hear talking! But I was the only one home! "Can't you be quieter? You're going to wake him up!", the voice whispered. I took a baseball bat and continued walking. I opened the kitchen door and switched on the light quickly. I couldn't believe what I saw! There were two elves! I screamed, they screamed and this continued. But after we all calmed down, I decided to enquire calmly.

"Who are you? What are you doing here? Who sent you? Are you planning to take over the world? Please don't take over the world! I love it here!", I asked and pleaded continuously. I was just so full of questions! "Calm down son. We are not here to destroy anything or take over the world." The older elf told. "Then what are you doing HERE! In my House!?" I asked in mock-frustration. "we're not meant to be here. We were just helping Santa Claus deliver the gifts to the children, but since we are so small and light, when the wind blew, we got pushed off the carriage. We landed right in front of your house. We entered inside and we felt hungry, so we decided to get a snack. Your cookies look tempting, so we tried to open it, but it was too tight. We are sorry. We shouldn't have done that." The old lady elf, who I guessed was the wife of the other elf, explained with her head hanging low. Immediately I empathized for them. They told me that they didn't know their way home. So, I decide that I could give them a home. They jumped up and down and thanked me so much. To celebrate, we each had a cookie. And to repay me (even though I said that there was no need), they helped me finish my story! So, at the end, everyone is happy and it's a win-win situation. But moreover, I made new best friends!



SOHANA ANAND - 6A



Fire in a neighbourhood building

One night all of a sudden in the wee hours around 3am I woke up. To my amazement, my parents were missing. I searched for them everywhere, I heard some weird noise coming from the balcony. I checked the balcony and found my parents there. I was amazed to see our neighbourhood building engulfed in a big fire. People had evacuated the building quickly. Many firefighters, policemen and had arrived. The area near the building was sealed. Plenty of smoke was produced. People were taken to a hotel. At 8 am the fire was extinguished. It is believed that the cause of fire was a party in a room. A cigarette was left unattended on the furniture causing the outbreak of fire. For the past 6 months the building is sealed.

DHRUMI - 6C



A We!rd Class



The next period was English, and I was a quite happy. Our English teacher, Renju ma'am, had finished our previous chapter that nearly took a *month* to complete. I was finally going to finish the chapter, *The Red Roses of the Queen*, ugh!

Anyways, the teacher told us that our new chapter was: *Hopes were Born when We fled East*. Hmm, that does not sound that bad, but let us just get on with it. In every English chapter, the first thing we do when we start a chapter is read the chapter.

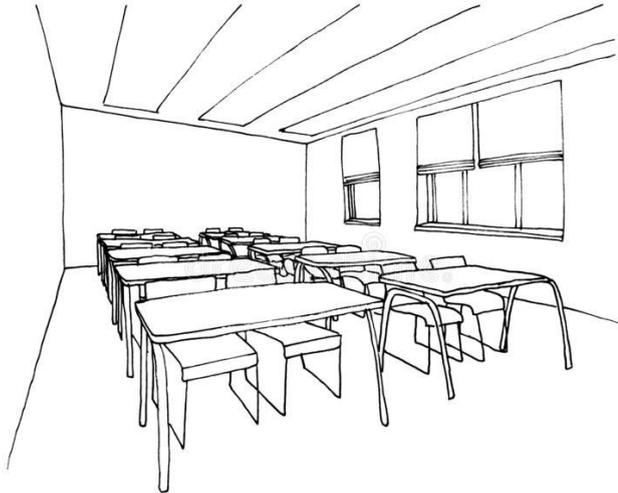
So usually, Miss Renju will call out a name of a boy in random. So, surprisingly, she started with me! My heart was pounding once she called out my name. I stood up, nervously, and flipped the pages of my textbook, to the first page of *Hopes were Born when We fled East*. I started reading the lesson.

"In the distant past, during the dawn of human civilisation, humans made their way to North America through Beringia, a giant landmass that acted as a 'bridge' from present-day Russia to Alaska. But overtime, Beringia melted and the humans that lived there were stranded forever, without any contact to the outside world"

Once I finished reading the paragraph, Miss Renju asked me to explain what did the paragraph meant to me. I, again nervously, said "The paragraph meant that in the dawn of human civilisation, humans migrated to North America through Beringia. Overtime, Beringia melted and they were stranded"

Once I finished summarizing, she told me to sit down. Once I sat down, I felt as if I was in some kind of hallucination. I felt myself walking with a group of other ill-dressed people, walking through, what I saw as an ice burg, but actually, I was walking through Beringia.

This was weird, because I knew I was in the class a few seconds ago, and here I am in Beringia, isn't that amazing. Anyways, I patted the back of one of the 'migrators' and tried to explain him in simple sign language that where are we going. I am not sure if he understood me, but he did say something in a barbaric voice



Then suddenly, I was transported on a sledge with reindeers and had reached the end of Beringia in a wink of an eye.

Anyways, by the time I reached the end of Beringia, I began to hear the voice, of a student, narrating?! He told that "Once the first humans touched North America, they started splitting up into different people, with different customs and traditions."

All that the narrator told was happening right in front of my eyes; it felt like a visual timeline going really fast, in a 360 degrees view. Right now, I have reached a Native American tribe. Ugh, it is so hot, and judging by my US geography learning, I can tell that I am in Arizona, or the 'oven of the US'.

I again heard the narrator "Once such group of people were the Native American tribe 'Hopi tribe.' The Hopi tribe was famous for farming, which would bring hopes for a more prosperous America." And just like what happened in Beringia, the timeline started moving again.

Then I was transported to a more tropical place, with more plants and trees. I was travelling through the wood when I found this: a Mesoamerican pyramid. This felt like an Indiana Jones adventure. Over there, I found out some people from the Aztec.

Again, I was transported to the coastline. "But during the European Age of Discovery, many explorers started landing on the Americas." And just like how the narrator told, the Spanish ships started arriving.

I can tell that that is not Christopher Columbus, because during our Geography class, we have learnt that he was not the first person to step foot on the Americas; it was Samuel de Champlin, another Spanish explorer. Wait?! Geography; I forgot about the English class!

I found myself in my bed, on my pyjamas; what happened. "Wait" I touched the wardrobe next to me, it was real. Then I finally realized that it was all a dream. Well, no more Indiana Jones adventures for me now! "Rithwik, you are getting late for bus again" Oh, I think I must be off!

RITHWIK KRISHNA - 6N



The Lost Island



Once upon a time, my friends and I were planning to go for a trip. We said that this trip will be a special trip. One of my friends said how??? I said that usually most of the people travel by cars and airplanes, why not travel by ship for a change.

Our parents were kind enough to permit us to travel. We packed some home cooked food and set on our travel.

The first three days were awesome, we enjoyed watching the scenic beauty of the sea. Unexpectedly on the fourth day there was a terrible storm and we all were scared. The fifth day was quite fine. We reached an island and we asked for help and we altogether screamed for help!!! But no one was there. We saw a cave and we started walking towards it and got inside the cave. Since it was dark, we were not able to see anything inside the cave so, we switched on our torch and we saw many artefacts, cave paintings and old weapons and many more. My friend took out her camera and she took a video and also, she posted on the social media. Everyone was so surprised to see the hidden treasure. Outside of the cave there were dense growth of trees like a forest with cute little rabbits, butterflies and deer. It was relaxing to be in the company of nature.

After sometime while we walking back to the cave we saw a boat we all were surprised and we were speechless. Then we returned to our home, we all were amazed to see so many people all set to interview us about our strange journey. We were given prices and gifts for finding the island.

Even archaeologists were so amazed of us and our parents were proud of us. People named the island as “The Lost Island.” Everyone started visiting the island and that journey was a memorable day for us.

ANUSHA ANITHA REMESH - 7D



The Mysterious Forest

The news spread like wildfire around the town. There were colorful posters stuck every we went, it stated "The Old Tumbledown mill was converted into a beautiful forest". 'It was renewed finally' was the thought going on in everybody's mind, for it was considered as an old mill for over 50 years.

My friends and I had planned to visit the forest tomorrow, we were really excited as we were to explore the deep parts of the forest were nobody dared to go. We certainly didn't believe in village tales. They said that it was a forest filled with magic. We set of early morning armed with our breakfast, lunch and tea. We entered the forest and had our breakfast. We later set to the deep part of the forest. We all had our pockets torches with us. We held hands as it was creepy. Lucy stated, into 'The Adventure of the secret forest', what makes you tell that Lucy? Asked Janet. Nothing just a feeling, replied Lucy. All was all going well until we suddenly heard a voice calling to us. Our hearts stopped still.



We jumped out of our skins when Diana shouted, "Who's there?" There was no answer. We did feel scared. We kept together and went forward heading towards the direction of the sound. Soon we found ourselves in a place full of gorse trees. Suddenly we heard the sound quite near us. Once again there was noise this time behind us. We turned back and saw a tree talking to us. Yes, A TREE! We were so astounded that we forgot to be scared. It spoke again and we clutched each other in fright this time. It said 'Hallo friends, Welcome to the forest of magic, here you will come to know about your past sins and deeds. All the trees came forward and bent on us blocking all the sunlight. A chill shock of fear ran through our spines. The trees told us about our past until we could hear no more.

We tried to run out but there were tree branches blocking us in every direction. We crouched together trying our best to not hear. We had our lunch there and felt much better. We explored the forest and we came to a den. We went in and it was full of crates. We wondered what it was. Suddenly there were clatter of feet. We peeped out and saw all trees turning into humans and rushing here and there. In a trice I understood everything. I explained the situation in few words, and we laid our plans carefully. It all happened in a matter of minutes. Once all the trees turned into humans, we took our chance and rushed out, we ran home at top speed, two of my friends went to the police station, while my friend and I went and got all our parents to my house.

We told our adventure to the policemen and our parents. They were astounded but I told them I will tell the plans of the men in the forest later as it is important to capture them first. We went with the policemen. There were 8 of them, 4 stood outside to capture all of them who tried to escape, the inspector along with us went to the cave. When he saw the crates, he whistled. He said those were the lost jewels of Queen Elizabeth. On the other hand, all the men were caught by the policemen who were standing outside.

The inspector congratulated us on the discovery. Now the forest was open for all the people to visit. We later told the inspector the plans of the men there, though he guessed most of it. I said, it all started when the theft was planned. They had to hide it somewhere until they could ship it away, so they chose this town and made use of the old tumbledown mill. When they heard it was going to be converted, they spread a rumour saying the deep parts of the forest was magical and the trees there could talk. When we went there, they tried to scare us, but we found their plans far before them. The inspector took some notes and asked the rouges about it. They agreed to the explanation too. Queen Elizabeth also gave us some gifts though we refused. Everybody was proud of us. We felt very happy and visited that forest every week thereafter. What Lucy stated was true after all said Pam 'The adventure of the Secret Forest'.

SMRUTHI SRIRAM - 7C



Truth Shall Prevail

Sitting there, Annie seemed puzzled and anxious about her new family, wondering on what should she expect from her siblings, whether her life would be like a fairy tale or just the opposite. Annie also was having a flashback on all her memories in the foster care; it was just flood of emotions for Annie. Drowned in all her thinking, she missed to see that her adopted family, the Smiths, had already come and she was woken up from her thoughts by the foster care taker. She took her packed bags, thanked her foster care and left.

After a long drive she got a glance of her new home. She went around her house and her adopted mom showed her own room. This was a new experience for Annie because in the foster care she shared a room with seven children and now a big room was all to her. At dinner she was introduced to her new life by knowing her new school, the neighbours and her adopted brother. It was all too much to discover for her in a day and she felt exhausted and fell asleep. The next day she went to explore new house, she found a beautiful chandelier, exotic pictures, Butlers and maids running here and there to get the breakfast.

Okay!" said Annie in a fearful voice. "What a strange creature!" thought Annie. "Breakfast is ready" called one of the butters. "Coming" said Annie

While having breakfast, Annie noticed that the old grandma and her adopted mom were staring at her necklace. "May I see your necklace?" said Annie's mom. "Of Couse!" said Annie and gave them the necklace. The necklace never meant anything to Annie as she didn't know its value and thought it was just a gift from the adoption centre.

After sometime Annie stumbled across an old storage room and decided to explore it. There she saw many old items and a huge table. She found some paper work on the table and saw a picture of the whole family with an old man and small child. She noticed that the old man had red hair and had the same necklace which she had earlier. Then she also noticed the child had same red hair and looked similar to her. Soon she heard a huge stumbling sound and the grandmother entered the room. She said "So you have found the truth."

Grandmother continued "You are a part of our family and grandfather wanted give his business and property to your father as he thought he was wiser. In his will, your grandfather said that he would give his property to someone who has the necklace that you are wearing. hence your foster parents had described you and wanted to adopt you as they had seen you wearing this necklace.



As she was going to close the door, Annie screamed "GIVE BACK MY NECKLACE." But she ignored and left. During the next few days Annie found some more evidence- the will paper, a family picture when she was born, her grandfather's diary where he had written all his thoughts on whom he will give the property to. Suddenly she heard an old but creepy voice. Annie curiously asked who it was because she could see a shadow of a figure. "Hey Annie, this is your grandpa and I have something to say. I know this might dishearten you but I feel this is the right time', said the voice.

He continued, "I always wanted to give your father the property but your uncle, aunt and grandma had their eyes on it. They just spend money and are irresponsible in their doings. Your parents are locked up in the basement and Pls don't open it yet otherwise I am afraid they will lock you too. Annie was shocked.

The ghost continued "Here is what you will do - go to the nearby police station and go to Mr Job and present the evidence and I will accompany you dear." Annie mustered all her courage and went there. Grandfather's ghost accompanied her. Surprisingly Mr Job knew the grandfather's presence and asked Annie what brought her. Annie told him about how she got know her grandpa's will and how they locked her parents. Mr Job worked with his team to recheck all evidence and investigated it more without Annie's uncle, aunt and grandma. On the 19th of October Mr Job went to their home presented them this evidence and also was secretly recording the happenings. They replied that they have all fake papers and they were safe.

Next day, Mr Job presented this in the district court with the original will. Annie's aunt, uncle and grandmother were convicted. Annie's parents were found and they had to go through some rehabilitation as they were locked up but after some few months Annie's father and mother started the business and the business prospered and they become billionaires. Annie lived happily ever after.

DISHITA VASUDEVA - 6D



Journey of Surprises

Once upon a time, in a village called Hangle town there lived a brother named Daniel and his sister named Emma. They lived with their mother. Their father Harry had died in an accident. They were a poor family, so Emma and Daniel, the two children had to work; they delivered newspapers. Daniel was good at opening locks and hacking passwords while Emma, was good at distracting and good at pranking people. Their mother Ginny worked in a restaurant and she gave advice to people. The most common piece of advice Emma and Daniel would hear their mother say was "Use what you have; don't depend on other's things. One Saturday, Emma and Daniel had come home after distributing newspapers. The phone rang and Emma picked the phone up. After about a minute, she dropped the phone grabbed her brother hard and ran. Her brother stopped her near the gate and asked what was going on.

Emma was stuttering and mumbling a sad truth. She then proceeded to say "Mmm-mum is in t-the hh-ooo-sss-pp-ital. She is badly i-i-njjj-uu-rred." Daniel turned white but then almost suddenly he started laughing and told his sister "You almost got me Emma, that was a good prank." After Emma heard this she started crying and shouted fiercely at her brother, "You think this is a silly prank, don't you? Don't you realize how serious this issue is?"

Daniel stopped laughing and saw his sister, her face was filled with tears. Emma looked like a girl who had lived in misery for years. Daniel immediately realized it was not a prank and rushed to the hospital; their mother was in the ICU. After some hours, the doctor came out, with hesitation told that their mother had passed away, I am sorry for your loss. Emma ran out of the hospital to the lonely house which before was filled with joy. While Daniel followed her, they cried for hours then Daniel said still in tears, "We have to leave this house; grab whatever you can and let's leave Emma." They packed for 10 minutes and were about to leave when Emma remembered and said, "What about the forbidden cupboard?"



Since they were small they were forbidden to touch the cupboard and never saw its contents. Emma and Daniel slowly approached the cupboard. Opening the cupboard expecting to see, huge amounts of gold but it was empty except for a tiny package and a necklace. On the tiny package it was written- OPEN IT WHEN YOU MOST NEED IT and the necklace was their family heirloom. They took it a bit disappointed and travelled, now they reached a city called Numberg. They felt they were being followed but dint see anyone suspicious. They went to an orphanage and stayed there. Then the next day after their journey from Hangletown a merchant named Draco and his wife Astoria came, they wanted a child and, as soon as they saw Emma and Daniel they chose them then after few days they were in their house.

Draco and Astoria were completely rude to them and treated them badly and showed no interest in them. One day Emma and Daniel were exploring the house, while Draco and Astoria were at work; they came across some paper work and a letter, in the letter and it said - Lucius. This completely shocked them. Before Emma could start crying, Daniel took her to the nearby police station. They told the cop everything

The cop was shocked. Then he arrested them and put in jail. It turned out that he was Lucius, Astoria's brother. Emma was so furious she broke the chair in the cell. Then Daniel spotted the key in their keyhole and pointed it to Emma, and she was so happy she yelled, "Yes, the key. The key." Now it was Daniel's turn to be furious. and then Emma remembered something took her bag and took the small package from the forbidden cupboard and opened it there was a single paper and a quote was written on it "Use what you have don't depend on other's things." Daniel had a plan- Emma could distract them somehow and then by using his ability to open locks he could open and they can escape. Emma was making a fake copy of the necklace for them.

She finished it and then she called the police men in order to distract them and threw it out of the window. The other policemen went to find it while one stayed behind. Emma kept a bottle of water mixed with sleeping potion that the policemen drank and immediately fell asleep and then Daniel opened the lock and they escaped and travelled far away from the city and reached Colorado. They reported to the police there, and they took immediate action, of arresting them, and Emma and Daniel got good parents but not better than Ginny and Harry.

TANISHKHA RAMESH - 6D





Diary entry

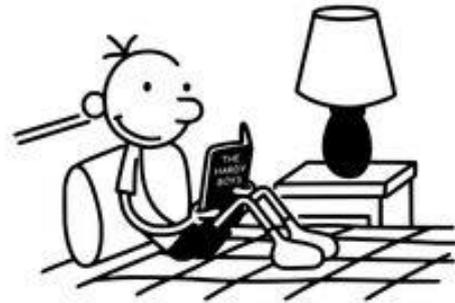
8th April, 2020

9:53 pm

Wednesday

Dear Diary,

I have something strange to tell you that happened in our camp. It was kind of fun. It happened like this; While roller skating, I lost my way and entered into a forest. I moved further into the forest and got lost. I began to regret for not taking my phone with me. Then I thought to spent the rest of the day in the forest. Initially I thought to spend my time exploring the place. The nature is a real heaven, it is so beautiful with the flowers and fruits. I thanked God for I won't stay hungry. There were plenty of fruits. Then I settled myself with some apples and berries. I saw some monkeys and squirrels. Since, I am an animal lover I had a great time with them. The sky got darker. While I was walking I heard strange and weird noises and moved forward feeling scared and I almost fell. Then I thought to clear some place for me to sit. Soon I started to think of my parents and felt sad. I was sure they would be worried. As it was getting even darker, I went off to sleep. When I woke up in the morning I saw my parents, they had been searching for me. I returned home safely.

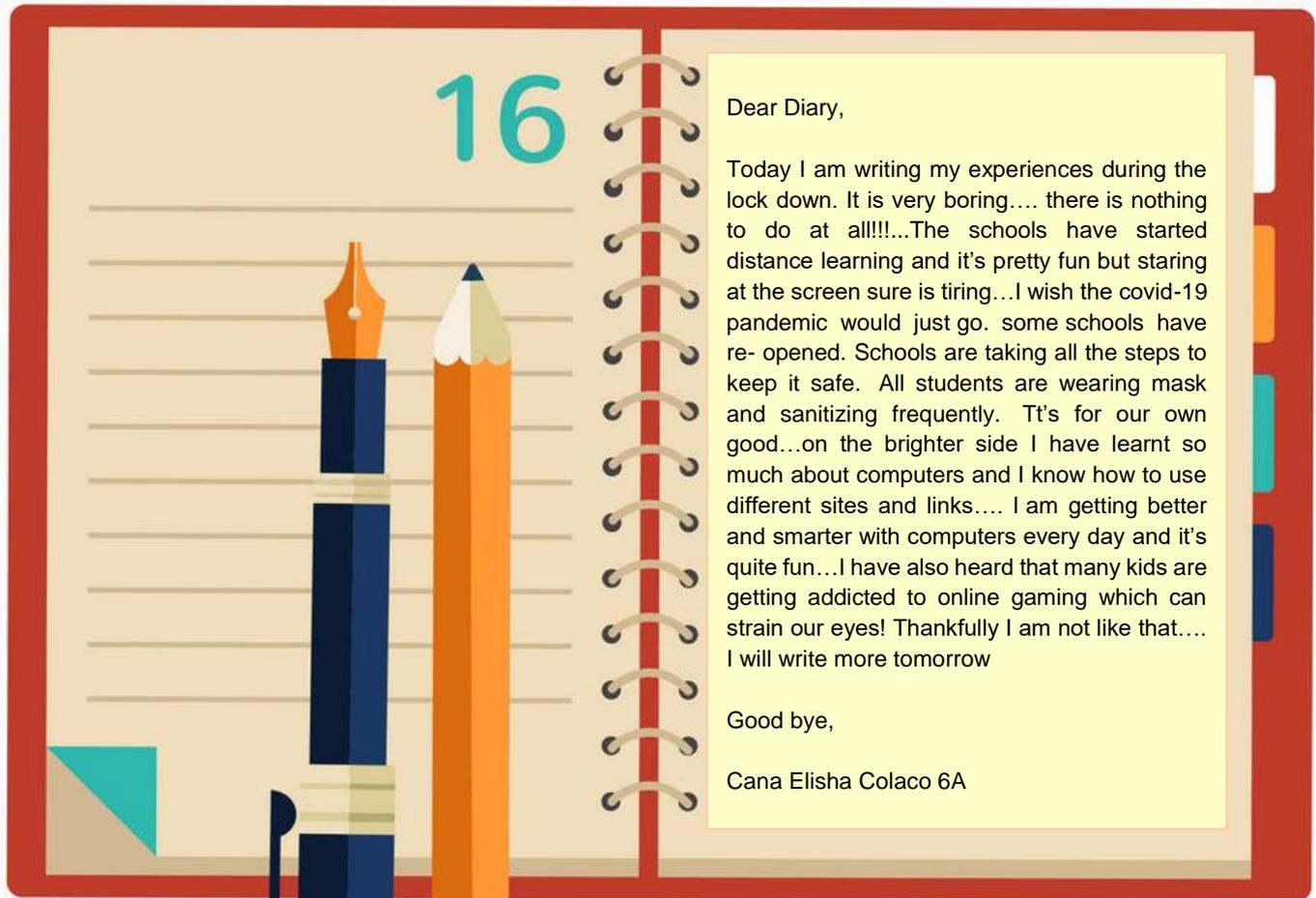


Hoping for more fun days,

Bye for now,

Ananya – 6A





My diary entry
1/4/2020

8.30pm

Dear diary,

You would never guess what had happened to me today. I am literally yelling with joy. I'm so happy!! It all started from yesterday. Last night, I was tossing and turning in bed. I couldn't sleep properly considering the fact that I was a new student to the class. Moreover, we were having the online learning classes. I was a bundle of nerves. What if my classmates won't accept me? Will I be shunned by all? These strange thoughts kept swimming in my mind. After a lot of commotion and worries I slept. I woke up at around 6 today. I got dressed for my first day in the new class. I opened teams in my laptop and waited for the teacher to start the class teacher's period. I was sweating all over. Finally, the meeting symbol came and I pressed the 'Join' button. I entered the meeting and switched on my camera as instructed by our class teacher- Nidhi mam. We waited for all the students to join. After everyone joined, we all started my introducing ourselves. It was fun knowing everyone and my joy knew no bounds when I found out that my best friend and close companion of my previous class was with me. Yeeeeeahhh!! Then the classes started. All the teachers briefed us their expectations and the ground rules to be followed while taking online classes. Finally, it became 1pm. We all bid each other a goodbye and left the meeting. I can't believe how well the day went for me. Now u might be thinking that I am such a crazy girl to be scared of today, right? But hey!! That would have happened to you if you were me. Anyway, I will always remember and cherish this day forever. Oops! It's time for me to sleep but don't worry, I will be writing to you tomorrow too. Good night dear diary!!



Surabhi Prakash - 7D



The Aboriginals

It was a cold night. I was walking down Wembley Woods, swinging my torch and looking out for logs that could trip me. I was coming back to my cabin from a Thanksgiving Party at the town. Being a forest ranger. I was forced to live in that cabin and unfortunately it was right in the middle of the woods. The people at the party had begged me not to travel alone through the wood and pleaded me to lodge at the local inn at the town, but to me eating their food and drinking their wine was more of a hospitality than what I could accept. I thought of all this while I walked down the path to my cabin. As I was walking fungi on stumps looked like faces and startled me for a second, twigs broke under my feet and the holes at trees made ugly faces. But all that was exciting. And there I could see the glow emitted by the flame torch I had kept burning in front of my cabin.

And that was when the faces began. It was over my shoulder when I thought I saw a face. A monkey like face with dark sore eye sockets and blood dropping from its sides. The face looked at me from the gap between two trees and before I could turn and confront it, the thing had vanished. I quickened my pace telling myself cheerfully not to start imagining things or there would simply be no end to it. I walked on and abruptly another face popped up and with the same speed it came, it vanished. I hesitated, took a moment to brace myself and walked on.



Then the whistling began. Very faint and shrill it was at the beginning and seemed far behind me. I hurried forward and again, very faint and shrill it sounded far ahead of me. I stopped and wondered whether I should make a beeline to the town. No that would not do. I was halfway through the route and I couldn't go back now. I kept walking forward trying to ignore the shrill whistling which seemed to be heard throughout the forest.

Then the thumping began. Similar to the whistle I heard it far behind me and then it grew into a regular rhythm. I knew it was the thumping of large feet. It first seemed to be one, then another, then both and it grew and multiplied from every quarter as I listened anxiously. All the whistling and thumping scared the living daylights out of me. I freaked out and made a beeline to my cabin. I knew I was completely safe there. Once I was indoors I would lock all the doors and bolt the windows. At morning light, I would walk right up the Village Office and demand a transfer, if they refused I would leave the job and stay with my mama and my farm at Tennessee. I ran to the cabin, opened the dark oak door, shut it and bolted all the windows. I kept on whispering to myself "I'm safe, I'm safe, I'm safe". I turned to get a glass of water and to my utmost horror saw the face. Monkey like with black sore eye sockets and blood oozing from its mouth. Cannibals. This was the thing the people at the party tried to save me from. This was the Terror of Wembley Woods which I had confronted. And the last thing I saw was that spiky club at the hands of the creature being whirled at my head.....

VAISHNAV KRISHNAKUMAR – 8N



CHARACTER SKETCH

Black Panther (Marvel Superhero)



The character that portrayed Black Panther in the movies Chadwick Boseman passed away recently. He was one of the regal actors of the Marvel series. The below link is a tribute to the great actor.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHgmV7N0HyU>

Black Panther first appeared in the comic of the fantastic four issues #52 in 1966. Black Panther was the First African Superhero Character. His Superpowers come from a Heart-shaped Herb.

The creators of this character are Stan Lee and Jack Kirby.

Tchula aka Black Panther is born in Wakanda, Africa in the Movies as well as the comics.

His abilities include superhuman strength, speed, agility, stamina, endurance, durability and genius level intellect.

The name 'Black Panther' was earned in a ceremonial title that was given to the leader of the Panther Clan in the technologically-advanced African nation, Wakanda. With the fear of foreign exploitation on their land, Black Panther's father isolated Wakanda from the outside world.

His super tech makes him stronger. His suit is made of vibranium which is the rarest as well as the strongest metal in the MCU (Marvel Cinematic Universe).

Though the film is based on African settings, not a single scene was shot in Africa.

The Black Panther movie was also a film that received numerous awards and nominations with seven nominations at the 91st Academy Awards including best picture, with wins for Best Costume Design, Best Original Score, and Best Production Design. *Black Panther* is the first superhero film to receive a Best Picture nomination and the first MCU film to win an Academy Award. It also received three nominations at the 76th Golden Globe Awards, two wins at the 25th Screen Actors Guild Awards, and three wins at the 24th Critics' Choice Awards from twelve nominations, among others. A sequel, with Ryan Coogler (director) returning to write and direct, is scheduled for May 2022.

Links and References: -

Black

Panther- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_\(Marvel_Comics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_(Marvel_Comics)) and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_(film))

Chadwick Boseman - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chadwick_Boseman

Ryan Coogler - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ryan_Coogler

Stan Lee - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stan_Lee

Jack Kirby - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Kirby.



A Natural Disaster

My name is Adam, and I am hiding inside my closet trying to figure out what to be done. It all started after I saw the weather forecast and the prediction of a terrific hurricane.

BREAKING NEWS

A HURRICANE 7 IS GOING TO HIT THE SHORES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



I was in a state of panic, I ran upstairs and packed everything that I may need: a bag of chips, my laptop and some drinks but then I realized that it wasn't the smartest move, I decided to check on the list of ESSENTIAL THINGS. I was terrified as my parents and my younger brother were not at home. They would be back only by the weekend. I had umpteen questions hovering over my head. So, I decided to learn what to do in a hurricane.

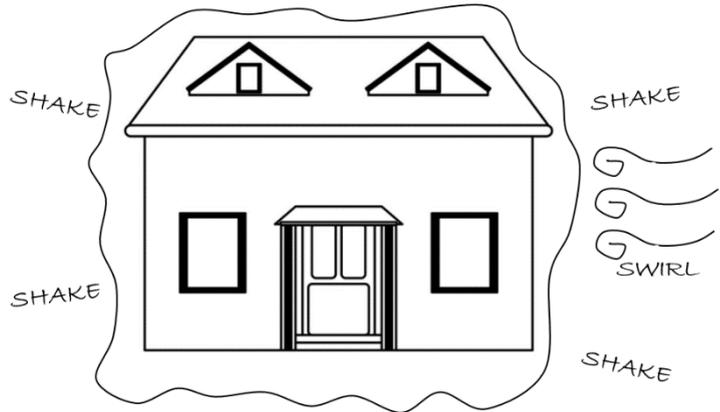
This is what I read:

Stay indoors during the **hurricane** and away from windows and glass doors. Close all interior doors—secure and brace external doors. Keep curtains and blinds closed. **Do** not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm - winds will pick up again.

So, I knew what I was doing, that's a good sign, but in the same time it wasn't not helping. So, I decided to take and keep the actual ESSENTIALS.

- **Food and Water (Caned Soups , Bread and Water Bottles)**
- **Tools(Hammer, torchlights ,extra charger)**
- **Radio**
- **Toys and Mobile Devices**

Then came the day as predicted by the weather department. It was just total chaos! After a while of standing in the middle of mass destruction and being shaken like a rattle toy, it was finally over. I couldn't believe, that I survived a NATURAL DISASTER.....



SAVIO JOS - 6Q



Signed, The Elves

Dear Santa Claus,

It has come to our attention that you only work once a year. Yes, it may be a twenty-four-hours-a-day, but only one nonetheless. And yet, we elves are forced to work 364 days of the year! Not to mention that we really need a dental plan- not more candy canes.

Frankly, we don't even like candy canes that much!

Not only are our hours unfair (as is our pay! We've been due in for a raise at least a couple of centuries ago!) ,but we have also grown quite tired of all the letters that you ask kids to send us, who all have very specific demands telling us exactly what they want. And while sometimes it is helpful, so we don't have to try and guess what to make them, most of the time it's annoying.

More and more kids have been asking for books, and do you know how hard those are to bind?! Why can't they ask for an eBook instead? Oh, and on that note why are all the kids asking for more electronics? They are even worse than books! They are so complicated to build, and it takes forever! We've been behind on schedule for week because of the number of phones that we had to assemble! A computer here, and a tablet there.

And can you please tell the reindeers that we don't really appreciate it when they fly around our houses in the middle of the night, laughing and playing their reindeer games, and jingling their bells. It's quite rude, honestly. Also, what's the deal with the tights? It's incredibly cold outside (not to mention that you NEVER turn up the heat in the workshop!), the very least you could do is give us a nice coat to wear!

One more thing, we really appreciate it when Mrs. Claus sends us hot cocoa. It tastes best when you add a hint of cinnamon to it, and don't forget the whipped cream!

Signed,

The Elves.



SERAH ELIZABETH TOMS - 6A



Does Violent Video Games Make Children Violent

Many people play video games. Video games have become popular recently and many millions of people play video games. But many people ignore the fact that some violent games are not good for children as they can learn violent acts.

Video games with violence shows children violence which they may perform on other people which can be dangerous. Video games are addicting. If the children get addicted to these games, it will be hard for them to leave these games. A common issue while playing video games is eye problems or diseases. When video games are played often, they could cause eye damage or weakness.

Adding to this, Video games are also very easily accessible so many people around the world can play these video games. Some video games have some advantages as well. They are used to spend free time; some games are fun to play with our friends. Some video game that are violent can cause serious problems.

To summarize, violent video games are not good for some people. Who are addicted but, they are fun to play as well? I predict that more problems will be caused due to violent games. Why do you think video games were made?



SHAYANTH - 8P

COVID-19 has pushed us into the world of technology further than ever before

The *Virus* has changed our lifestyle. The Covid-19 Pandemic shocked the world. During the crisis, we have seen an incredible amount of large-scale efforts to use technology in support of remote learning. At the same time, the crisis has exposed the challenges of technology in education. We had suddenly become reliant on services that allow us to study and learn from home.

Access to the Internet and digital technology has become essential in our daily lives. On top of that, digital technology could help boost the role of teachers rather than just communicating knowledge. They became co-creators of knowledge, coaches, mentors and evaluators. Another important aspect is how well teachers are prepared and engaged in online learning. They need to be involved in planning so that technology addresses their instructional needs.

Empowered by artificial intelligence, this system can also observe how students learn. Digital technology enables us to work, study, shop etc. online. Lack of access to the Internet significantly impacts people's lives during this time.



JOHN SABU ABRAHAM – 8M

2020: A Gainful Loss

COVID-19 was a major disruptive force affecting all walks of life. Looking back at the pandemic, it not all dull and gloom. From a pessimistic point of view, one may list losses like numerous deaths, depression, crash of the economy, rampant job losses, disrupted social lives, hindrances in regular education, halt of travel, the closure of religious places of worship, end of festival gathering. The list is endless and goes on and on. Though so much pessimism, we can pick out some pros too.



The biggest gainer from COVID-19 is Mother Nature herself. She has a huge relief from the suffocation from the industrial and vehicular polluting forces. Massive improvement in air quality. It has led to the Ozone layer repair. We can now see the twinkling stars in the dark sky. The cleansing of water in the Ganges. We can hear the chirping of birds. We can see the dancing of the butterflies. We can see the sceneries previously unseen due to air pollution.

The quality family time has now increased. People started to realize the value of time and life. They learned how to live a simple life. This pandemic taught people the importance of hygiene and cleanliness. Education became digitalized and affordable. Online classes have become the new norm for educational institutions, and it has come with a few benefits too. The feasibility of virtual class has become a reality. We can expect a boost in the accessibility of education within every section of society. We never expected education, working and cooking at one venue.

Any darkness has a silver lining around it. One realizes the value of light only in darkness. This pandemic is a vaccination to all of us to fight against difficulties in life.

ADITHYA PODUVAL – 8M



The Anticipation

The last Wednesday of November, it had been quite a cold evening and all the Turkeys were freezing out in their coops but they were always hopeful and determined that when the clock hits 12 A.M., they would be free and some kind people might take them to their home and clean them, love them, keep them out of the cold and care for them.

As the turkeys were patiently looking at the clock and waiting for it to strike 12 A.M., anticipating the arrival of the aforementioned kind people, one of the turkeys whose name was 'Beatrice' went over to her husband whose name was 'Stephen' with a sense of doubt, she asked him *"Stephen, what if the rumors aren't true? What if the legends are all wrong?"* to which her husband replied by saying *"NONSENSE! Whose been feeding you all of this false information? These questions are absolutely ridiculous!"* and so Beatrice stayed silent and continued staring at the clock but not with anticipation this time, but with a slight sense of fear and confusion.

Finally, after much waiting, the clock struck 12 and the Turkeys were screaming and laughing in joy saying *"They're coming, I can't wait! We'll finally be out of the cold and we'll finally get enough food to eat!"* and suddenly, a whole bunch of people came over to the coop looking at the Turkey's trying to see which one to take home, The turkeys were rushing to the front saying *"pick me"* and other turkeys pushing the turkeys in the front saying *"No! pick me, I'm better"* and there was a whole brawl for getting picked by the humans. After a while of fighting and the humans searching, one of the human's picked Stephen and said *"This one Mr. Farmer, I'll take this one"* and so the farmer agreed and sold Stephen who was so happy about getting picked that he was howling in joy, but Beatrice was crying as her dearest husband was taken away from her.

A few more hours later when the coop was cleared of all turkeys except for Beatrice, A man rushed into the farm and said *"Damn, I'm late and all the turkeys must be taken by now"* until he noticed Beatrice, when he saw Beatrice he was glad to have found a Turkey so he picked her up and bought her. On the ride to the human's home, she was thinking about Stephen hoping that he was happy where he was and she hoped that he was getting all the love and care that he wanted. When she finally reached the home of the human that took her, she was slightly happy since she was out of the cold and safe from anything. She was given a nice bath and was cleaned very well, she just started trusting the human that was responsible for her and felt like she would be safe where she was when suddenly he picked her up and took her to his shed where he put her head on a block and held a cleaver to her head.

She was about to die and she realized that everything that she told her husband was right, the human said *"You're not much but the way I'm going to cook you is going to be absolutely delicious!"* and when Beatrice was void of any hope she let out a tear and thought about Stephen with all the good times they had together until the cleaver hit her neck again. Happy Thanksgiving.



AARYAN NAIR - 80



Life as Alexa

Hi Everyone, I am Alexa, a virtual assistant -AI technology. Today, as I was anticipating for someone to buy me, I saw two people a woman and a man standing near the window and staring at me. I got very much thrilled when they came inside the shop and asked the shopkeeper, "How much does the Alexa near the window cost?"

He told them the price and they were ready to buy! You know, that was the happiest moment in my life, because I know that I will get more new friends, a new family and a new house. The shopkeeper packed me and gave me to them. Since I was in a transparent bag I was able to get a glimpse of the new place.

As we were walking, I heard them talking about their daughter's birthday. So, I predicted that I will be their daughter's birthday gift. Though it was a long walk, we reached our destination. When I reached the house, I was awestruck by its beauty. It was the most stunning house I had ever seen! When we got inside the house I saw a girl looking sad. I felt, as she was lonely and she also looked gloomy. When I looked around the house I got to know that it her birthday. But why was she so sad? She came running to us and as expected, her mother gave me as her birthday gift!



Her mother told her that I Alexa will answer whatever she asks. She took me upstairs to her room and she asked me,

"What is your name?"

I said, "My name is Alexa".

I asked her "What is your name?"

She replied "Michelle"

I asked, "Why are you looking sad even though it is your birthday?"

She replied and said "I don't have any friends... Will you be my friend?"

I replied "Of course, I will be happy to be your friend"

A ray of hope came to her face as she began to smile... From that day onwards, whenever she comes home from school, she comes directly to me to tell whatever happened in her school... We would talk for a long time whenever she is free after completing her H.W. She became happy because of me and I am also very happy about it.

SASHA SHAJI SAMUEL - 7D



Standing up for our Mother Earth

We all love nature and its beauty. But whose duty is it to save it? Are we waiting for someone else to do it; or do we have to do our small part? How can this be implemented? Well, today I am going to look into these questions.

Years before, the Earth was green and peaceful. It was a treat to our eyes. Neither there was pollution nor anything that was harmful to the Earth. Sooner or later, with technology, plastic was invented. We all know that it is not biodegradable. It increases the carbon footprint and damages the protective ozone layer. Well, at that time, they never knew what was in store for the humanity! So, they continued with its usage, without even thinking whether they were posing any danger to the Earth!

Slowly humans started realizing the side effects of using plastic. That's when few of them started looking into the Earth's safety! But by that time, humans had become too dependent on plastic. So, they had to regulate and minimize its usage and implement proper disposal or recycling methods. The Earth is a wonderful place; it provides us the most important resources needed for our lives; air, water and food! The problem about us humans is that, we take things for granted. We are the ones who pollute this once green Earth.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "The Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed." Many of us are greedy; we take what we need, but we do not care for the provider, our mother Earth. To keep our environment safe,



we need to follow few steps. For years, we all have been hearing the 3 Rs rule; reduce, reuse, recycle. But do we ever follow them? We should try to minimize the usage of plastic products. Replace plastic bags by jute or cloth bags. Use glass or steel utensils. Dispose or recycle any discarded plastic material.

How do we all dispose the garbage at our home? Does anyone segregate the waste?

Usually we mix the vegetable and plastic waste and dump in the garbage shoot. Who will bother to segregate the garbage? Here we can be the change. We can segregate any plastic containers or packets at our homes and drop it in the appropriate recycle bin. This calls for some additional effort, but we would be doing our part for our mother Earth.

This is our home. This is the place where we live. It is our duty to preserve the environment for us and for the future generations. Even a small, good deed towards the Earth can make a big difference. So, let us do it! Thank you

JOSEPHINE MARIA GEORGE - 7D



Cliffhanger Endling Story

I couldn't even sit properly on the seat. The bus was grumbling every now and then like an angry dog. I stared out of the window...but I couldn't distract myself from thinking about the past. I recollected as the bus moved...I, being convicted to the court for a wrong which I didn't even do. I thought about all it again. I was just wandering along a lonely and empty street of our village when I heard the sound of a knife being drawn out of a pocket and I heard the sound of a man being stabbed to death.

The man screamed and yelled, "Please don't kill me. I am innocent...I have two young daughters. If you kill me, then what about them?" A gruff voice then spoke, "It's alright. I will take care of your family." And suddenly, the sound of the footsteps faded away. I deliberately tried to figure out from which direction the sound was coming. Even though I had a difficult time to find the direction of the sound, I managed to reach the spot.

I gasped and was taken aback! A man there alone, weeping and groaning. And I saw a knife...stabbed through his chest. The man groaned, trying to get up. The area around his chest was covered with blood and his cheeks were bright red which showed that whoever that person was...he was beaten black and blue. He was badly bruised. I had only seen this in Hollywood movies. Tears rolled down my eyes and I held his hand tightly to mine to check his pulse. I felt it beating for a few seconds and then...and then it stopped. His lips were pale and still. He didn't even feel my arm...he had no pulse nor will. He was laying there, fallen cold and dead.



Then, I heard the sound of police siren and a crowd of footsteps coming closer. Then through the bushes, came a bunch of policemen. They looked furious and disturbed. They pulled me to the car saying, "You are under arrest." I screamed and tried to explain, "Noooo. It wasn't me. I came there hearing the sound—" "Every criminal says that. Now get in the jeep and we'll march towards the police station. I cried and pleaded. I wept and beseeched. But no mercy, they thought that I had killed him! I, who came there hearing the voice of a man being stabbed. I, who checked his pulse to see whether he's alive. The police station was a nightmare to me. I was beaten like a dog there. Then, the next day, I was taken to the court.

There at the court, was my mother pleading for forgiveness. She cried and begged, but no mercy. I wasn't able to find a good lawyer...and...and I was convicted...wrongly convicted. I was taken to the INDIAN CENTRAL JAIL. I had to spend one week of my life in the jail. Then, I was again convicted to the court and was given bail period for a week to prove that I was wrongly convicted.

This old memory of the past...my heart was still skipping a few beats when I recalled the incident. Here I am now, travelling in a bus to my village in the bail period to prove that I was wrongly convicted to the court and jail. The bus driver said, "Village thirty-four. Street fifty-six. All who wants to get down at this stop, please do." The mentioning of 'Village thirty-four' gave me a sudden shock. My father was the head of the panchayat here, or simply the *sarpanch*. I got down and walked towards my village on foot. As soon as I stepped on the pure soil, it was as if my dirty feet were suddenly washed clean. When I breathed the fresh air, I travelled back to my good old childhood memories. It was very pleasant and satisfying.

But sudden thoughts just came up to my mind. Would mother allow me to step in the house? Would she allow a criminal to do that? But I wasn't a criminal. My mother also didn't believe that. She had also believed what the court and the judge had believed. Suddenly, a group of men leaped towards me, causing me to fall down on the unpaved road. Then I felt a hand punch me right on my nose...and...and I just fainted on the spot.

The next moment I gained consciousness, I was in a very dark place with metal bars in front of me.

I yelled, "Where am I? Who are you all? Why did u bring me here? There was no response

SHIKHAR SURESH NAIR – 7N



Someone knocks on my door every evening



It all started a month ago. There were recently people who complained to the police that they were being disturbed by knocking noises. I guess now it's me. I sat on a chair drinking a can of cola and watching television and suddenly, a knock. I ignored it thinking it for something else. So, like I said this was happening almost every day until.... the knock continued but as I ignored it the knock got louder and louder. So, the more I ignore the knock the more the sound gets louder. I decided it's enough, so I went out to see who it was and, an old man looking weak and pale stood there. It was as if he hasn't eaten anything for years.

But here everything changes. He looked at me and said, "Do you know me?"

I looked suspicious didn't know what he was talking about. So, I ignored him and closed the door in front of him and went to the kitchen. Again, there was a knock. When I opened my door the old man well just disappeared. But who was it? Why did he ask me this question?

But suddenly I felt a tap on my shoulder and there was an old man reciting something. It was a rainy day and damp. The old man pointed at something and when I looked a flash of light appeared and blinded my eyes for a second and when I looked back the old man once again disappeared.

Everything what I saw must be a dream as I closed the door. I turned off the light in the kitchen and went to the bedroom to sleep. As I was about to sleep, I saw an album.

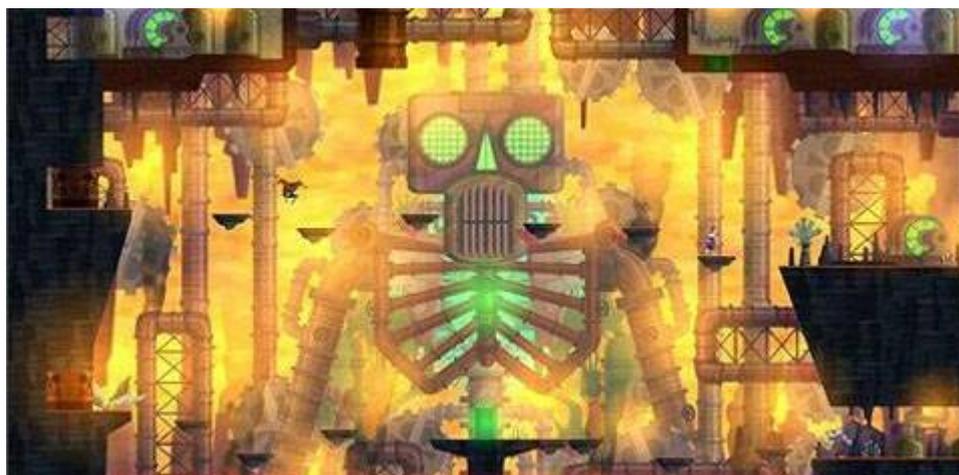
For some reason I opened it and there was a man with a bunch of people wearing mask and I was there wearing a mask too. It was the same man who came to my door. I was shocked.....How???? My parents died a long time ago but what is this old man doing in here, in this album, near my house??

This will remain a mystery in my life.

AHLAN - 7Q



Does Violent Video Games Make Children Violent



Many people play video games. Video games have become popular recently and many millions of people play video games. But many people ignore the fact that some violent games are not good for children as they can learn violent acts.

Video games with violence shows children violence which they may perform on other people which can be dangerous. Video games are addicting. If the children get addicted to these games, it will be hard for them to leave these games. A common issue while playing video games is eye problems or diseases. When video games are played often, they could cause eye damage or weakness.

Adding to this, Video games are also very easily accessible so many people around the world can play these video games. Some video games have some advantages as well. They are used to spend free time; some games are fun to play with our friends. Some video game that are violent can cause serious problems.

To summarize, violent video games are not good for some people. Who are addicted but, they are fun to play as well? I predict that more problems will be caused due to violent games. Why do you think video games were made?

SHAYANTH 8P

The first and the most important reason why violent video games have negative impact on a child is its negative consequences. Children spend most of their time in playing violent video games and they are unable to take their meals on time and at the end they faced malnutrition and other physical diseases. Negative impact of video games on children's physical health, including obesity, postural, muscular, skeletal disorders and nerve compression are common in children.

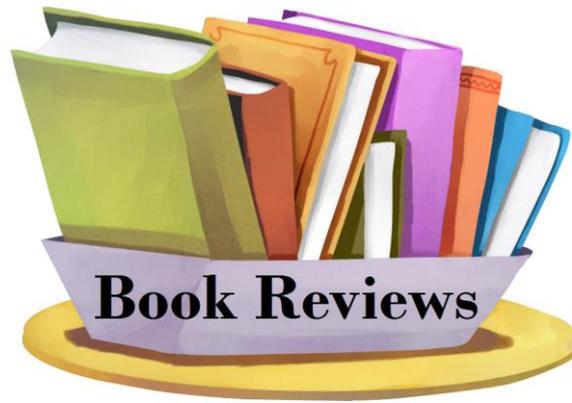
The second reason is that violent video games cause mental disturbance in children. Many observations prove that violent video games make children procrastinate and divert their concentration from their purposeful school activities. As such many children are seen to be performing poorly in academics. On the other hand, children also learn obsessive language and show violent behavior patterns from these violent video games. Hence it impacts a child's mental wellbeing.

The content of the video game plays an important role in the development of child's mind if the content is good it will help the child to learn new skills and if the content is not of a child's level, it can affect the child brain negatively.

Overall, one should be very careful about the amount of time being spent in playing video games and should balance between outdoor games and video games.

RAEEZ ANWAR 8 Q





Book Name: Diary of a wimpy kid. Author: Jeff Kinney

Main Characters: Greg, Rodrick, Rowley, Manny and Fregley.

This book is about the life of a teenaged boy named Greg who is going through many difficult situations in the school as well as at home with his best friend Rowley. He tries to become a better person and tries to pass his middle school life. He actually starts this diary writing as instructed but soon he finds it to be interesting and begins to continue.

This book is really interesting to read. My favorite character is Greg as he is so funny like me. I really like the small pictures drawn on every page describing the scene. I think that every person will enjoy it. So, I suggest, everyone to read this book.

Rating: 5/5

HENA SHYLES - 6A



