

June 15, 2020 Issue 1

# HAKUNA MATATA

What is in this first issue:

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW OF OUR PRINCIPAL, READ ON TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT IT

By the IGCSE students of Modern High School



Cambridge Assessment International Education  
Cambridge International School

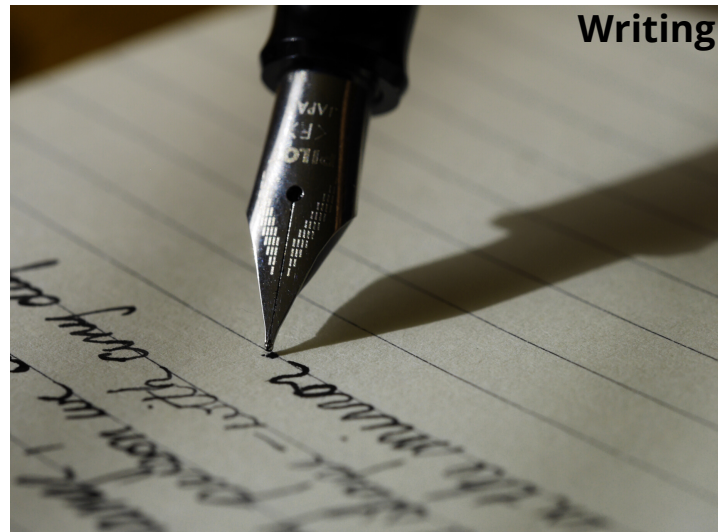


# EDITORIAL

I have always loved reading and writing. Ever since I was a child, I asked for books on Christmas and birthdays. Opening a new book is like entering into another world. One that has never been discovered before . One that lurks in the shadows of our reality.

I have solved cases alongside Nancy Drew and Sherlock Holmes, have performed magic with Harry Potter and faced the Minotaur with Percy Jackson. I have defeated the White Witch in Narnia, helped aristocrats with Sir Percy Blakeney and ruled Camelot with King Arthur and Merlin. I have been a Divergent with Beatrice and I have fought to stay alive in the Hunger Games; all these and more.

This idea was one that occurred to all of us as a cohesive IGCSE unit and we propounded the idea of a monthly editorial, which was enthusiastically accepted and given the 'Go' signal by the school. We have all worked as a team, everyone has played an integral part in putting this together and finally today we bring our views to you, our readers.



Here, you can read about tips and tricks of photography, learn a bit of a new language, cook up a new dish, travel through space, listen to trending music, read a good book or even watch an upcoming movie.

We yearn to learn because of the support of our wonderful teachers, Ms. Saha, our coordinator, Ms. Sanyal and Mrs. Seema our English teachers Ms. Madhuri our Physics teacher, Ms. Bharadwaj our art teacher and Ms. Chatterjee, our Class Teacher. They showed us the pulchritude of language and today, with their help, we present our newsletter.

We, the Lionesses of the IGCSE world, welcome you to view the vast savannah from the great Pride Rock of perspectives. Come with us without any worries, to the wonderful phrase of **Hakuna Matata** which is not just a passing craze.

- Sanjana C Mitra  
Chief Editor



# INTERVIEW

## A message from Mrs. Kar

### Congratulations

Team Hakuna Matata !

I am delighted to have been asked to write a message for the inaugural issue of your newsletter. To begin with, I love the name - it is just right for these times. You have transitioned very smoothly to the digital age but I have noticed with pleasure that you have also kept the beauty and richness of printed books alive through your Book Nook. Your offering, in the form of this compact digital edition, has it all -music in Quaran-tunes, happenings - both international and local, art, photography, design, films and a dash of science too, through an "Element" of Surprise. All in all, a most attractive and impressive bouquet.

Wishing Hakuna Matata a long and interesting life.

Devi Kar

June 2020



MRS D. MUKHERJEE

**Q** - What would be your message to the first batch of IGCSE students? How do you feel about this new journey?

**A** - I am as excited as all of you about MHS venturing into another international curriculum- this time offered by CAIE! It feels wonderful to be part of a "thinking" community in which students, teachers, parents, administrators are enthusiastic about exploring the unknown and are eager to step out of the comfort zone of the familiar. The first batch of IGCSE students will always be special for all of us - as the "pathbreakers".

**Q** - Modern High has a well established and successful national (ICSE/ISC) and International (IB) school boards. How do you think introducing IGCSE will benefit the school?

**A** - Any international curriculum encourages thinking about local issues in the context of the global "big picture" thus developing multiple perspectives. Introducing IGCSE as an option from class 9 enables the School to bring in additional pathways to explore best teaching-learning practices from around the world



# TO NEW BEGINNINGS AND A FRESH START

New beginnings bring new experiences. We have studied in ICSE for most of our academic journey so moving to IGCSE was a big leap for all of us. We were all apprehensive at first, but now? We know that we made the right choice.

It is a new board which means - new concepts to grasp, new learning and teaching methods, new mentors - and the experience till now is quite different from what we have learnt in the national curriculum. Till now, from what we have experienced, this board encourages us to go out of our comfort zone and explore things we have never done before. It almost seems like we have discovered a different side of us that we never knew existed.

The excitement of the first day is still fresh in our minds. Although it was not the ideal first day of school scenario, we felt like we were soaring among the clouds. It has only been a month and IGCSE is all we had envisioned and more. The projects we are assigned are thought-provoking and interesting. Learning here is not limited to textbooks and set syllabi. IGCSE is not just about the tests or marks. It aims at building our personality and initiating personal growth in order to become independent individuals.

This curriculum marks the fact that every person's thought is important. We should respect everyone's imagination and venerate its originality. It is also helping us to understand and deal with different situations in a unique way by giving our minds the freedom and flexibility it needs in order to comfortably learn. Our teachers are extremely supportive and constantly encourage creativity and uniqueness. They have motivated us to think out of the box. Choosing IGCSE was a great and fruitful decision. Even though we have just started out, we eagerly look forward to all the new opportunities it has to offer. We are exhilarated and are sure that this year will be a remarkable journey of learning and a fresh start for us all.

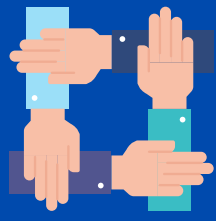


**"THIS NEWSLETTER IS A TEAM EFFORT BY THE IGCSE CLASS. THE GIRLS HAVE SHOWN THAT WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY. AN IDEA ABOUT THE STUDENT NEWSLETTER HAS BECOME A REALITY BECAUSE OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO GO AN EXTRA MILE"**



**Cambridge  
Assessment**





# OUR TEAM



**SUHANI**



**SANJANA**



**ADYA**



**ANVITA**



**TRISHA**



**MEHER**



**VASHITA**



**AKSHITA**

**Hakuna Matata**



**LEPAKSHI**



**KARISHMA**



**DHWANI**



**NAVYA**



**NIKITA**



**DEBASHMI**



**ANANYA**



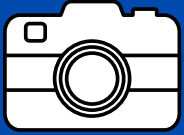
**PRASHANSA**



**MANVI**

PIC•COLLAGE

PIC•COLLAGE



# CHANGE YOUR **LENS**, CHANGE YOUR **STORY**

**"THE EYE SHOULD LEARN TO LISTEN BEFORE IT LOOKS"-ROBERT FRANK**



To make a picture interesting, we can zoom in while shooting and move our camera. It is important that we know how to adjust the shutter speed and ISO level according to the surroundings, as they help in developing a photograph. While we edit photographs it is important that we keep the spontaneity of the photo. To make a photograph look good, one should step closer to the subject but still keep the lens on focus. We should keep the subject far from anything in the background. Making the background blurry can also add to the clarity of the subject. The key thing is to keep experimenting until you get a satisfied shot. We should always have fun! I hope that these few tips help you enhance your photograph.

During this lockdown, everyone has claimed at least one new talent or practiced their old ones. I have used this quality time to fiddle around with my camera and captured some nice moments without actually stepping out of the house. Although it was not a very long time ago that I found my interest lay with playing with my camera, I learned that some basic tips and tricks can enhance a picture to another level. It is always advisable that a photographer takes a picture using a simple background. One should avoid camera shake and try not to use the flash indoors. We should create a sense of depth. We can play around with the light. Adding artificial light like from fairy lights or colorful bulbs can also create an aesthetic effect to a photograph.







## INTERNATIONAL

### COVID-19

The coronavirus pandemic has left the world at a standstill with no cure. Millions have been affected and thousands killed. It is spreading like wildfire and has affected almost every country in the world. Originating from the People's Republic of China it has killed over 37000 people worldwide and affected 6.8 million people as of now. The numbers are growing with no foreseeable remedy. Worldwide, individuals have started stepping out while following health norms. Cities and countries that were once hotspots for this disease are now eyeing reopens a prime example being, New York City and China. With cases increasing daily and people quarantined in homes, it is important for us to look at the positives. Pollution made COVID-19 worse but these lockdowns are cleaning the air. New types of birds are being seen, the Gangetic dolphins have been spotted in Kolkata after several long years and deer were spotted in the streets of Manchester and London. COVID-19 has helped us get together as a country and community to feel for one another and help one another in these times of need. So rarely has the world fought hand in hand against a common cause.



### PRIDE MONTH

June the pride month. It is chosen to be so as it was the month of the Stonewall riots, the event that changed gay rights for a lot of people in America and beyond. This is a month when members of the LGBTQ+ community celebrate themselves and their rights. The main motive is to teach people that true love is above all powers. Many pride marches are conducted during this time all around the world. These marches become tourist attractions and bring the community together. However, due to the COVID 19 crisis, people cannot step out of their houses. Thus, as an alternative, many pride parade associations are conducting events online and are trying to make up for the cancelled pride parades. Some of them are the Brooklyn Pride of the USA which will be held virtually on the 13th of June and the Bisbee Pride which will conduct a virtual celebration on the 20th and 21st of June. The invitations to these marches can be found in the given link <https://www.iglta.org/Events/Gay-Pride-Calendar>



## BLACK LIVES MATTER

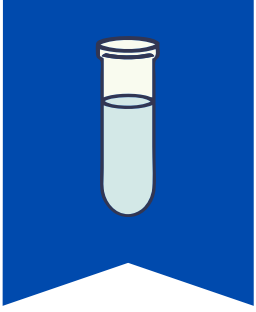
The past few days saw protests against racism and police brutality in the United States of America. The world watched as hundreds of people gathered in different cities, countries and continents to protest and demand equal rights for African, African-American people and other minorities. These protesters were often subjected to violence or were even arrested, but they did not give up. The truth is that it is high time for a change. People realized it only after the innocent George Floyd and Breonna Taylor were brutally killed. Change is required not just in the U.S.A but in each and every country and citizen. In our country itself, the caste system continues to discriminate against many people. How can we, the citizens help? There is only one thing that can be done. Instead of feeling blessed to be privileged, we can use that privilege for good. Ella Fitzgerald, also known as the queen of Jazz, was once not allowed to perform in a club at the beginning of her career due to her race. Superstar, Marilyn Monroe, then offered to come to the club and sit in the front row almost every day if they let her play. That is how you use privilege for good. Raise your voice, give a hand and welcome change.



## LOCAL

### AMPHAN

Amphan entered India from the coastal regions near the Bay of Bengal with heavy rains and ferocious winds. Eastern India and parts of Bangladesh were adversely affected by this cyclone. Thousands of trees were uprooted, demolishing the green cover of our city. The CM's office announced that over 85 million saplings will be planted to recover from the damage caused by the cyclone. The death toll rose to 98 for Bengal. Relief funds worth 1500 crore have been given by the Centre and several eminent personalities are also contributing. Due to the damage caused by the cyclone, activities to restore and rebuild are taking place, people are working to restore electricity and removing uprooted trees therefore it has caused a shift from the pandemic. It is a challenge for the state government to work with two crises in hand. In post-cyclone Kolkata, people are gradually going out but they are cautious. Telephone lines are hanging which are proving to be quite dangerous. There are blackouts and power outages all around the city. Be careful and be safe! To all those who have been gravely affected by the cyclone and to the families who have lost loved ones, our hearts go out to you in your time of sorrow and no words can express our grief and sympathy for your loss.



# "ELEMENT" OF SURPRISE

On 30th May, at 12.52 a.m. IST, Crew Dragon Demo-2 launched astronauts, Robert Behnken and Douglas Hurley, into the low earth orbit, from the NASA Kennedy Space Centre. After several leak checks, communication checks, the crew finally launched into outer space. It was a proud moment for all American citizens since it was the first launch of a space shuttle on American soil after the STS-135 mission in 2011, led by Doug Hurley. The air was apprehensive after the launch got postponed on the 27th of May due to weather complications. This was a unique mission because the government (NASA) and commercial (SpaceX) sectors joined hands to send astronauts to space. For an interview, NASA administrator, Jim Bridenstine stated that space missions would be unsustainable and unsuccessful if left only to the government

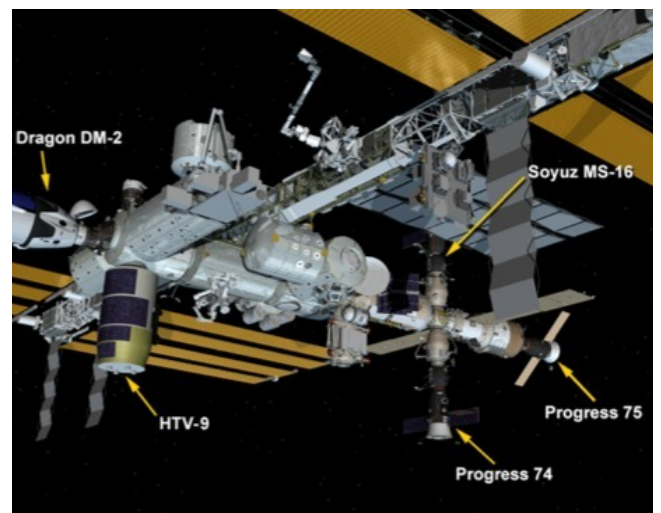
The Dragon spacecraft has some of the most futuristic features in stock. Quite unlike what is seen in other missions, in Crew Dragon Demo-2, the space suits and the seats on the Dragon capsule are very closely associated. They are connected via an umbilical, which enables communication, cooling and pressurisation (only if necessary). These carbon fibre, fire resistant, custom made suits are designed to ensure safety and reliability with easy access to its functionalities.

In contrast to several other missions, Crew Dragon Demo-2, docking is a manual process maneuvered by pilot, Robert Behnken. Often the robotic arm of the International Space Station attaches the spacecraft to its surface. This is called berthing.

The Dragon spacecraft focusses a lot on ease of functionality. Aboard the capsule, there are three manually controlled touchscreen displays which show alerts, velocity, temperature, pressure and procedures



Touch-Screen Display



Dragon 7 docked with the ISS



SpaceX Dragon Capsule Falcon 9 Launch Vehicle

The SpaceX Dragon was designed with detail to guarantee utmost safety of the astronauts aboard. It is two-fault tolerant, which means people onboard will be safe even if two features disfunction. An interesting feature of the Dragon spacecraft is its 8 superDraco engines which function as a Launch Escape System and ensure safety. The Launch escape system is the primary backup system. The Dragon capsule was methodically designed to automatically separate from the vehicle if it detects danger and splash thousands of miles away in the Atlantic Ocean. If the capsule was unable to dock at the ISS, the pre-planned trajectories would take them back to the Earth safely.

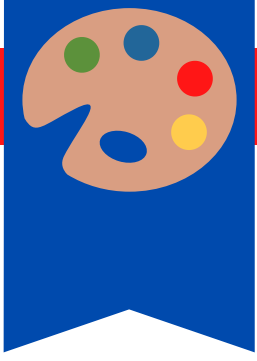
SpaceX's launch vehicle, Falcon 9, tops my list of interesting features of this mission. It is the first orbital class, two-staged rocket capable of re-flight. SpaceX has always focussed on reusability - it allows SpaceX to retrieve the most expensive parts of the rocket, which makes missions cost effective. Its 9 Merlin engines in the first stage are propelled by liquid oxygen and RP-1 (highly refined form of Kerosene).

Placed symmetrically around the base of the rocket, four landing legs, made of futuristic carbon fibres and aluminium honeycombs, deploy just before landing. Once the first stage is detached from the non-reusable second stage, it lands either on ground or on drone ships in the ocean.

Initially, the crew lost communication with the Houston Office, soon after separating from the Falcon 9, however, it was retrieved shortly. After a 19-hour long flight, the crew docked safely on the ISS. They will return after about 120 days once they successfully complete all their objectives aboard the space station. The powerful Draco engines will allow them to return.

This crucial mission was of global importance. Crew Dragon Demo-2 is the final major test for SpaceX, and its success will open doors for its human spaceflight system to be certified by NASA for operational crew missions to and from the ISS. Eventually, the world's first orbit-class reusable rocket will take astronauts for further expeditions to the moon (Artemis Mission) and will subsequently be able to explore the red planet - Mars. It is also expected to take civilians to space by 2021. Adding to this, the Dragon Spacecraft proves to be rather inexpensive compared to Russian spaceflights, thus a more viable option. Lastly, the mission has proven to spark the dreams of many young souls. To conclude, I would like to quote the NASA administrator's important message on a recent interview (about NASA) - 'They test, they fail, they fix, they fly.'





# DIGITAL ART

Humans have been fascinated with art for almost 20,000 years. They have been experimenting with various media and techniques to make their artworks more appealing and interesting. Artists always come up with fresh and new ideas to impress their audience. An American Artist of the 20th Century named Andy Warhol, is known to be the creator of a new emerging, revolutionary art form of this time known as Digital Art. He created his first series of digital art on a personal computer-Amiga 1000, created by the company Commodore International in the mid 1980s. People were amazed by the artist's creations and gradually, it became one of the most popular and most used forms of art in today's world. It is a completely different form of art; it is not performed on any solid medium- it is performed on a digital platform- in the enthralling, astounding and overwhelming world of virtual reality. This art form provides a colossal gamut of innovative and interesting styles as well as traditional art forms such as water color, oil painting and many more; and it functions as a bridge between the modern and traditional styles, creating an aesthetic and cohesive art form altogether. Down the years, along with the improvement of technology, digital art has also improved immensely. Software designers and engineers have been working hard for improving software programs and are creating new effects so that artists can execute realistic and interesting styles and effects on their art works.

Digital art has been used by animation companies and in animated movies released in the 20th and the 21st Centuries. Professionals enjoy working on a digital platform as they can experiment with a lot of effects and styles and in some cases, it is convenient too. Artists have also been experimenting with digital art by incorporating photographic elements into their art works and adding other materials after printing. Suggestion: For getting the best results of digital art, it is necessary that an artist has a digitizing tablet/computer, a stylus that is compatible with the gadget, a good software program and the concept and idea of drawing and painting on regular media before moving to digital painting. It is necessary for a person to know the basics of art to become a good artist.



RENAISSANCE ART



DIGITAL ART





# THE BOOK NOOK

A story is a tale that is made up for entertainment purposes. It can also retell an event that is either real or fictional. Writers all around the globe either compile short stories or use a single story to form a book. During this pandemic we all have plenty of extra time in hand, so why not utilise this time to read few books.

We have sorted four different categories of books that you might enjoy reading, this quarantine.

## 1. HORROR

- *Carrie* by Stephen King
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

## 2. FICTION

- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

## 3. COMEDY

- *American Panda* by Gloria Chao
- *Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome K Jerome

## 4. MYSTERY-

- *Pretty Girls – 13* by Liz Coley.
- *The Arsonist* by Stephanie Oaks.





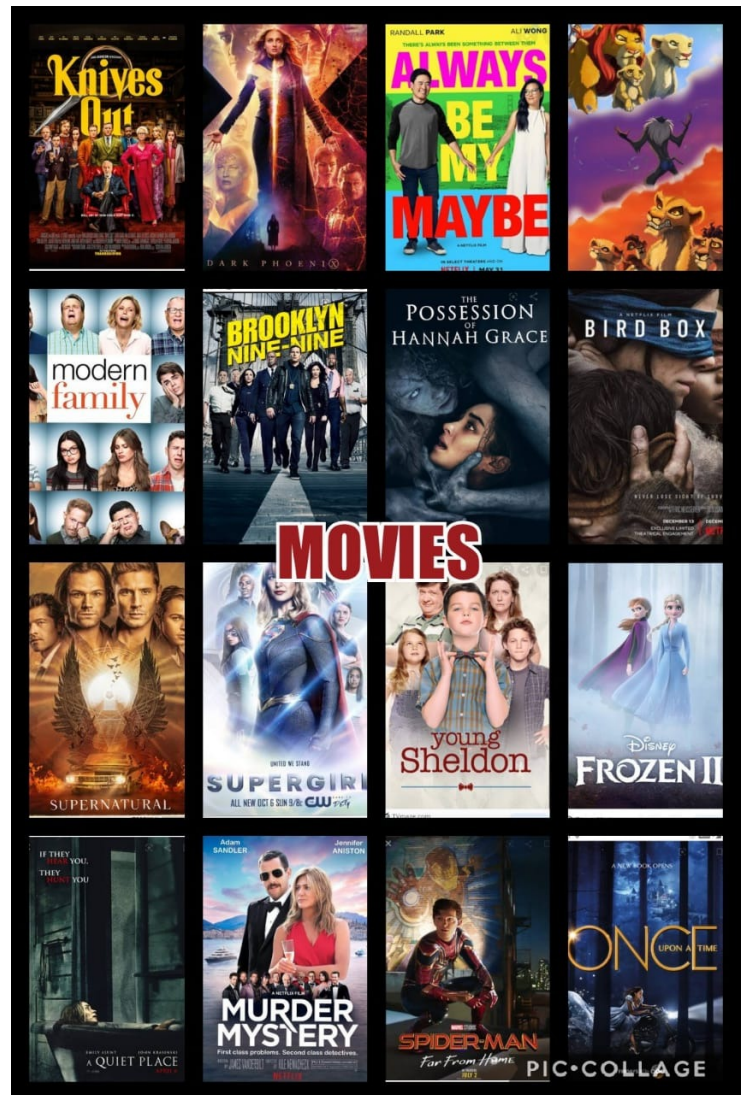


# MOVIE MARATHON

During this current nation wide lockdown, I personally feel that movies and television shows are the only things we can rely on to pass our time! Our one stop destination for entertainment- "Netflix", has gained over 15 million subscribers during this current lockdown! Here are a few movie recommendations which will hopefully make quarantine slightly easy and very entertaining for you:-

- **Children and Family:** For all the Disney fans out there, 'Lion King 2' and 'Frozen 2' would be the perfect choice for you.
- **Romedy:** If you want to have a good laugh 'Murder Mystery', starring our all time favourite Jennifer Aniston and Adam Sandler; and 'Always Be My Maybe' starring Ali Wong and Randall Park.
- **Horror:** 'The Possessions of Hannah Grace' and 'A Quiet Place' gave me goosebumps and I would suggest DO NOT WATCH THEM ALONE!
- **Thriller:** Thrilling movies like 'Knives Out' and 'Bird Box' will keep you at the edge of your seat all times, I promise!
- **Fantasy:** For all of you who enjoy Sci-fi I would strongly recommend watching 'Spider Man- Far From Home' and 'X-Men Dark Phoenix'.

- **Comedy TV:** Brooklyn-99, Gilmore Girls, Full House and Fuller House are honestly my go to TV series which I watch any time I feel low!
- **Thriller/Fantasy TV:** If you're looking for something thrilling and exciting, 'Once upon A Time', 'Supernaturals', 'The Mentalist' and 'Super girl' are the TV series for you!







# QUARAN-TUNES

The corona quarantine has confined us within the four walls of our homes. The real and virtual worlds seem to be slowly blurring together however, we believe that music can uplift our spirits and help us soar over these trying times! If you have listened to your playlist a few times too many and are looking for something new, this playlist is just the thing you need.

## 1)Pop

- Rihanna - Disturbia
- Ed Sheeran - Galway Girl
- Powfu - Death bed (coffee for your head)

The next category is for all of you who may have more of a taste for fresh and retro music with a bit of a country edge.

## 2)Country

- Keith Urban- God Whispered Your Name
- Maren Morris- Rich
- Shania Twain- You are the One

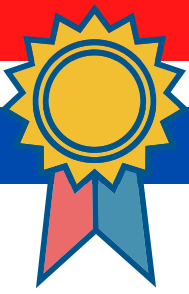
A lot of people I know are fans of the band "Queen". Queen's music has been alive for centuries and continues to thrive, especially with the release of the movie "Bohemian Rhapsody". This next category is for all of the rock music lovers

## 3)Rock

- Queen- We Will Rock You
- Chuck Berry- Johnny B. Goode
- Queen- Don't Stop Me Now

I hope you all enjoy listening to these songs as much as I did. Have fun and be safe!





# ACHIEVEMENTS

## CLEAN CLUB POSTER MAKING COMPETITION

### Special Mention for Outstanding Work



I have always been an environment enthusiast. Though I am not part of the school's nature club, I have accompanied them for a tree-planting program. I feel giving back to the environment and taking little steps against climate change is necessary. The CLEAN Club poster making competition created a great creative platform to address environmental issues.  
- ANVITA GHOSH

The topic of the Poster Making Competition - Earth is Rebooting, truly resonated with me. Using different mediums to make the poster, I was truly motivated when it was selected for a Special Mention.  
- ADYA NATHANY



# TEAM MEMBERS

## WHERE IT ALL BEGAN...

**Chief Editor - Sanjana C Mitra**

**Design and Layout - Adya Nathany**

### **Columnists & Contributors**

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- Ananya Butani
- Anvita Ghosh
- Debashmi Chakrabarti
- Dhvani Bachhawat
- Karishma Chotrani
- Lepakshi Basu
- Manvi Bagla
- Meher Paul Mehmi
- Navya Bhalotia
- Nikita Khaitan
- Prashansa Pasari
- Suhani Kothari
- Trisha Chakravarty
- Vashita Rungta







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