

# Among Ourselves








# THIS ISSUE UNFOLDS






74 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE


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“Citiu s , Altiu s , Fortiu s”




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ARTICLES , POEMS  
AND MORE





A PHOTO FEATURE



# RECTOR'S MESSAGE



*Fr. Adv. Stanley Varghese SJ*



This year, beginning on May 20<sup>th</sup> and continuing until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the Society of Jesus worldwide, and the entire Ignatian family, celebrated St. Ignatius' spiritual journey from the 500th anniversary of his conversion in 1521 to his canonization in 1622.

While the general theme of this jubilee year is conversion, the underlying invitation related to this conversion is to "See everything new in God." (2 Cor 5:17). To see "perfectly," like St. Paul, is to first acknowledge some form of blindness. Then, when touched by one's experience and spiritual tradition—we will be able to let God console us, and so embrace our present and future with renewed hope and faith.

Our world faces new challenges. Covid-19 alone has shattered our normal ways of life. We need faith to be able to see anew. The 34th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus in 1995 declared that "without faith, without the eye of love, the human world seems too evil for God to be good, for a good God to exist. But faith recognizes that God is acting, through Christ's love and the power of the Holy Spirit, to destroy the structures of sin which afflict the bodies and hearts of his children."

The conversion of Ignatius was not completed instantly, following his fall in

Pamplona. This incident, however, set a new course for his life. It turned his life upside down and forced him into self-examination. Out of this spiritual awakening, Ignatius had a burning desire for holiness and a zeal to do great things for God, which ultimately led him to a lengthy process of self-surrender.

The appeal of this conversion today is that when confronted with a hopeless situation, Ignatius created greater intimacy with God. As he renewed his relationship with God, he was able to refocus his unsettled existence. Ignatius put God at the center of his life. He could look at the world not with fear, but with hope and the desire to set it on fire with the love of Christ.

This Ignatian Year is not limited to Ignatius' conversion but it's an invitation for each one's conversion. God continues to invite each of us into a deepening relationship, to ongoing conversion. We believe that by embracing this invitation, we embrace our God who calls us to act in new, bold ways that reconcile our world, bringing about justice, peace and compassion. For this Ignatian Year, we ask for the grace to see all things new in God.

*- Fr. Adv. Stanley Varghese LL.M  
Rector*

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

*“And sometimes against all odds, against  
all logic, we still hope”.  
-Ellen Pompeo*

These words have kept ringing in our ears over these many months of the pandemic. It is a kind of mantra which keeps us going. Some of us might feel, “How long will this go on?” Some might think, “It will be over soon.” Do we really know when this is going to end? There is a flood of information that comes to us from all corners of the world. Some of us are anxious to distinguish the good from the bad. We do not really know all the answers to our queries! But there are plenty of good things that have happened in all of our lives. We can be thankful.

It is heartening to see the young minds of North Point, still hoping against hope, to get back to school. With this faith they are attending to all the activities of the school hoping that we will all, soon, see a great light - a light of hope and a grace filled future. I wish and pray for this too.

Some students call me to find out when the ‘in person’ interactions in school are going to begin. Their eagerness to get back to school clearly indicate what they are missing by staying home so long. Everyone knows what the students and teachers are missing in these times, especially at North Point.

However, it is encouraging to see both the teachers and students giving their best amidst all odds; be they be academic or extracurricular activities. From the beginning of the 2nd Semester there have been many activities like: The Ignatian Year Quiz, PD and LD Singing Competition, PD and LD Elocution Contest, PD Handwriting Contest, UD and SD PPT Presentation and Singing Contest, Interclass Quiz and videos for Bhanu Jayanti and for the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Apart from these activities, the students are also kept busy with their regular classes, homework, assignments, unit tests and final examinations which keep everyone on their toes. One trusts that the On-



*Fr. Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ*

line Parent- Teacher Meeting is also helping the children to take their studies seriously in their own capacities. One is only happy that despite the present situation, we are all moving in the right direction helping the children in every way we possibly can.

Sometimes, one thinks it is too much. Yet, when one reflects in one's mind, he will see that every student has done well when they were kept meaningfully engaged and occupied. Most North Pointers have imbibed the Spirit of NP which allows them to excel in all that they do. The recent circular from the Council will help keep our students all the more focused with the bifurcation of class X and XII syllabi, and with two semester examinations being introduced. It is interesting to see that everyone is trying to make one's life and others' meaningful by stretching to reach to their potentials.

As it is said, ‘When one door closes, another door opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us’ – Alexander Graham Bell. Let us continue to HOPE. May our positivity spread like wildfire to all . May the Year of St. Ignatius Bless us all.

*Sursum Corda!*





# 74 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

*“At the stroke of the midnight hour ,when the world sleeps ,India will awake to life and freedom.”*

*-Pt .Jawaharlal Nehru.*

At .Nehru’s words ,which he delivered on the eve of India’s independence ,ushered in a new and independent India .Our country’s two hundred year struggle for independence was finally realised .India was free from the clutches of her colonial master and free to pave her own path into the future.

Pt .Nehru ,the first Prime Minister of India ,in his speech “tryst with destiny” spoke of India’s hopes and let out the soul of a nation long suppressed by Imperialism .Seventy four years have passed since then and India has grown into a modern nation. Prime Ministers since Nehru have addressed the nation from the Red Fort in Delhi on every Independence Day .Every year ,we retrospect on how far we have come since independence.

The framers of our Constitution wished for a land where a man would not be judged by his caste or creed but by his abilities .The ideals of “Liberty” and “Equality” have been enshrined in the constitution. Power in a democracy must be derived from the people .It is a matter of great pride that we remain the largest democracy in a century where many Asian nations fell into totalitarian regimes .In the last national elections our voters numbered nine hundred and eleven million .Indian elections constitute the planet’s single largest human exercise.

Our economy has grown exponentially .In,1950 our economy constituted only three percent of the global economy. Today it is nearly seven percent and India is the fifth largest economy in the world .Our literacy rate has climbed from twelve percent in 1947 to sixty eight percent in 2021 .We boast a powerful military with nuclear capability ranking fourth in the world . India has built global institutions like Indian Institute of Technology) IIT (and All India

Institute of Medical Sciences) AIIMS. An aspiring global power , India has grown domestically and has exerted its influence internationally.

However ,the “tryst with destiny” is not fully realised .The process of nation-building is never ending .Our democratic process remains flawed where muscle power and money play pivotal roles .The electorate remains divided on the lines of caste and religion. The newfound prosperity is not equally distributed. Inequality in wealth remains high in our nation and millions still live below the poverty line .The global pandemic has exposed our crippling health care infrastructure .The severe state of the economy shows us that it is in dire need for reform .We have come far as a nation but challenges still lie ahead for us.

The rights and freedom we enjoy today and often take for granted ,would have never been achieved without the sacrifices of our freedom fighters. Countless lives were lost for our freedom .Therefore, it is necessary for citizens to protect their rights and freedom .The flickering light of democracy must be protected .A nation is not complete without her citizens .The kind of India a century from today depends upon Indians themselves.“We ,the people of India” decide our nation’s destiny and fate.

*- Vedant Rai , 12 SCIENCE*

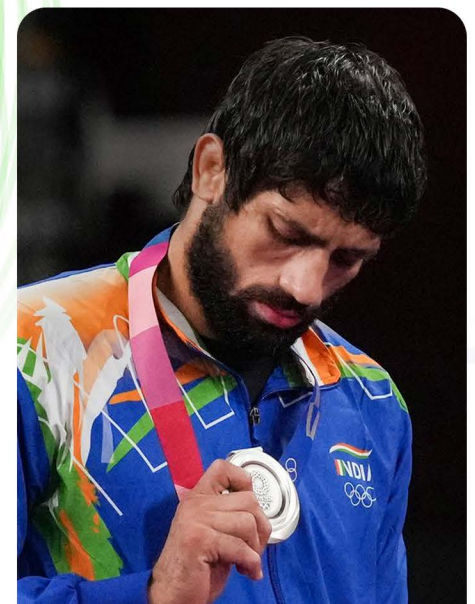




TOKYO 2020



“Citius , Altius , Fortius”







# TOKYO OLYMPICS 2020

*CITIUS ALTIUS FORTIUS*

**T**okyo, the Japanese capital, hosted the 2021 Olympics this year. The sporting extravaganza was actually scheduled for 2020 but could not be held due to the Covid 19 pandemic as many countries refused to travel to Tokyo. This is the first instance in Olympic history that the games had to be rescheduled and fortunately not completely cancelled. This year, the Olympics did not have any spectators due to the pandemic.

The 2021 Games were the fourth Olympic Games to be held in Japan, following the Tokyo 1964 (Summer), Sapporo 1972 (Winter) and Nagano 1998 (Winter) games. Tokyo was the first city in Asia to hold the Summer Games twice. The 2020 Games were the second of three consecutive Olympics to be held in East Asia, following the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea and preceding the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China. It was the first time that events such as three into three (3×3) Basketball, BMX freestyle and mixed gender teams in a number of existing sports were introduced along with the return of the madison cycling for men and the introduction of the very same sport for the women as well. The disciplines added by Japan included Karate, Skateboarding, Surfing and Softball.

The biggest sports event ended with India ranking forty eighth in the medals table (ranking is only given on the basis of the number of the gold medals earned). India managed to produce its richest Olympic medal haul by bagging seven medals (one gold, two silver and four bronze).

**Neeraj Chopra** a twenty four year old youth from Haryana's Panipat district distinguished himself at the Olympics by securing the gold medal in the Javelin Throw for India. A fitting climax to the story of Neeraj Chopra, who chanced upon the sport while trying to lose weight and who overcame a number of injuries to give Indian athletics its greatest moment on the world's biggest sporting stage.

The twenty six year old **Mirabai Chanu** from Manipur made light work of the weights in the forty nine kg category to secure a silver medal for the Indian side. A lot was expected from Mirabai Chanu in the 2016 Olympics where she failed to make a single clean and jerk lift. Redemption had never been so satisfying and sweet for a woman who picked up logs during the winters to fuel her family hearth.

**Ravi Kumar Dahiya** became the second in line to secure the silver medal for India. Dahiya fought hard but lost in the final to become India's second silver winning wrestler after Sushil Kumar. Dahiya produced a stunning performance in the semis against Narislam Sanayev while trailing two-nine.

The **Indian men's Hockey team** secured the bronze medal for India. The fact that we had to wait for two generations for a medal, has made this win extra sweet. A forty one year wait has ended in Tokyo 2020. India's men's Hockey team defeated Germany five-four to clinch the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics - their first-ever medal at the Games since 1980 and twelfth overall for India.

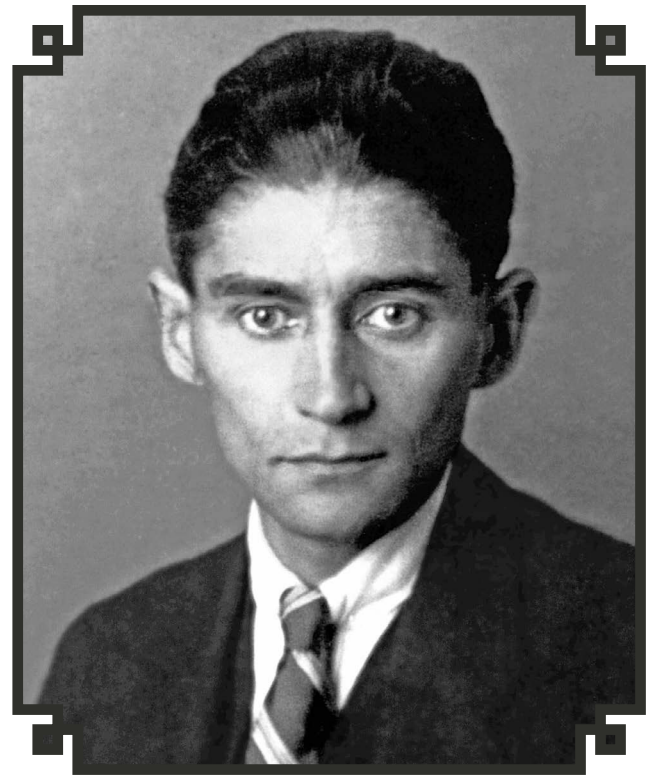
**P.V. Sindhu** was next in the line to secure the second bronze medal. Sindhu defeated China's He Bingjiao to win her second consecutive medal. With this win, Sindhu became the first Indian female sportsperson to win two medals at Olympics and second Indian Olympian with two medals after wrestler Sushil Kumar.

**Bajrang Punia** joined a long list of Indian wrestlers to win a medal at the Olympics, clinching a bronze at the Tokyo olympics. Bajrang beat Kazakhstan's Daulet Niyazbekov eight-zero in men's sixty five kg freestyle bronze, bout to become the sixth Indian wrestler to win a medal at the Olympics, the country's seventh medal overall in the sport. The Indian wrestler went into the Tokyo Games as one of the country's best bets to win a gold medal but a loss to Haji Aliyev of Azerbaijan in the semi-finals ended that dream. Bajrang, however, bounced back in style on Saturday, completely dominating his Kazakh opponent in the bronze medal match to win the country's sixth medal at the Tokyo Olympics.

India's **Lovlina Borgohain** settled for bronze after suffering a zero-five defeat to world champion Busenaz Surmeneli in an intensely fought Tokyo Olympic semi-final on Wednesday. Lovlina, the two-time World and Asian championships bronze-medallist, lost all three rounds by unanimous decision, ending her debut stint at the Games with a bronze. The twenty three year-old from Assam, who started her career as a Muay Thai practitioner, has become only the third Indian pugilist to ensure a podium finish at the Games after Vijender Singh (2008) and M C Mary Kom (2012).

*-Osiris Tenzing Dorjee Tamang*

# WHY ONE SHOULD READ FRANZ KAFKA



Imagine living in a world where disorientation and surreality are the hallmark characteristics, and to add to the misery, the cause of the disorientation is exceedingly absurd and incomprehensible. Now, imagine leading a seemingly normal life and carrying out (or at least trying to carry out) your daily activities, but at the same time, dealing with the hardships that the disoriented world throws at you. This very idea is the distinctive trait of the stories and novels of Franz Kafka, arguably one of the greatest and undoubtedly among the most relevant writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The word “Kafkaesque” is used to describe such perplexing situations which may seem unreal, but can easily be related to in our everyday lives.

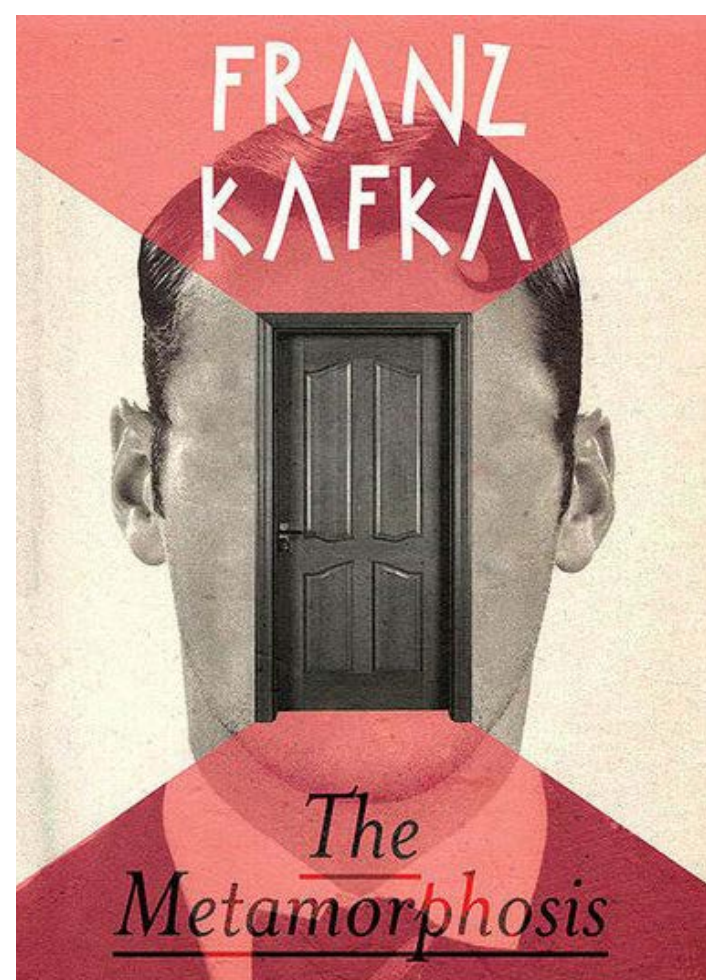
Franz Kafka was born in 1883 to a German-speaking Jewish family in Prague. His father was a middle-class, shrewd businessman with an imposing and authoritative personality, which was in sharp contrast to Kafka’s, and this resulted in a lifelong strained relation between the father and the son. Kafka worked in several insurance companies throughout his life in various clerical posts, but he often despised his tiring job, as it often hindered his passion for writing. In fact, his strained relations with his father and the nature of his jobs had a profound influence on the themes of his works, and they gave them a highly autobiographical nature.

Kafka dealt with the concept of existentialism in his works, as he explored the meaning and purpose of life in the most unimaginable situations. Think about waking up from a disturbed dream to see yourself transformed into a gigantic, hideous-looking insect, and leading the rest of your life in that very state.

This exactly is what Kafka’s most renowned work “The Metamorphosis” deals with. Or imagine being accused of a crime you did not commit, and not even knowing what the crime is or who the accuser or the prosecutor is, and spiralling towards destruction in your pursuit of innocence in a Dystopian world. This is the central idea behind Kafka’s “The Trial”. Ultimately, all of Kafka’s works indicate one conclusion- the futility of human life where the entire world is against you.

Kafka’s writings have already predicted the horrors and nightmarish realities of today’s fiercely selfish world that dwells in anonymity. The sufferings of the depressed in today’s world resonate with that of Kafka’s characters, which forces them to ponder upon their purpose in life, yet constantly live in a glimmer of hope that someday, their miseries would come to an end.

*-Shashank Tiwari, 12 Science*





# OLG CREATIVE



**SHARON LEPCHA**



**PRADEEP PRADHAN - CLASS 4C**



**AVINANDON THAPA  
CLASS 6D**

## School

It is a place where I spend most of my time  
rather than home.

I miss my school, I miss my friends ,  
I miss my teachers, I miss them all.  
I miss eating lunch with my friend ,  
And in the canteen for a change.

I don't know when the things may change ,  
But my dear friends let's hope for the best.

*-Mrinal Jermey Chettri  
Class '5C'*





**YADID THULUNG**  
**CLASS 8D**



**PRADEEP PRADHAN**  
**CLASS 4C**



**Yosang Lama - Class 8D**

## **PIRATES LOOKING FOR TREASURE**

There was a pirate in his ship!  
Informing his fella's that he wants  
treasure;  
Looking for pleasure,  
Then he saw an island;  
He stopped his ship and said, "Wait  
here, I'll be back"  
The pirate climbed and went till the  
tip,  
Where he found a trunk full of gold;  
With a man near it , then there was a  
fight!  
The pirate and the man were fighting  
and fighting,  
Till then the sea came,  
Both were giving a lead;  
And suddenly both fell down the sea  
with the trunk,  
They were drowned and died,  
The treasure and people were lost  
forever.

*-Chirag Garg Agarwal*  
*Class 8C*



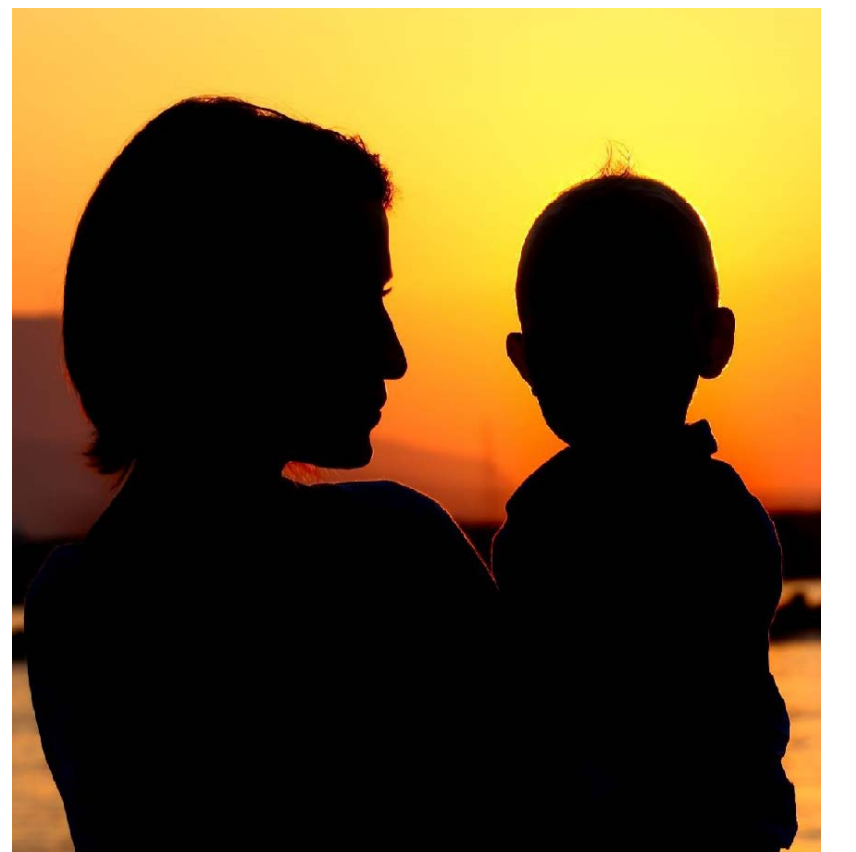
# आमा शब्दले मुटु चस्किन्छ

-AYUSHMAN CHAPAGAIN  
12 SCIENCE

कोख देखिको माया, ममता  
अहिले सम्म पनि अमर छ  
कठिन समय त्यगेनौ  
उस्लाई सम्हाल्दै अघि बढ्यौ  
आमा शब्दले मुटु चस्किन्छ।

बिहानी किरण होस् या  
कतैको यात्रा  
साथ दियौ सधै शब्द काटेनौ  
भोक तिर्खा बिर्सौ ज्यान  
सुम्पिदियौ  
आमा शब्दले मुटु चस्किन्छ।

अबेला रातमा भविष्य बारे  
सोच्छौ  
कठिन समय नआओस भनी दिन  
रात  
जप्छौ  
समयलाई त्यागी हाम्रा बारे  
सोच्छौ  
आमा शब्दले मुटु चस्किन्छ।





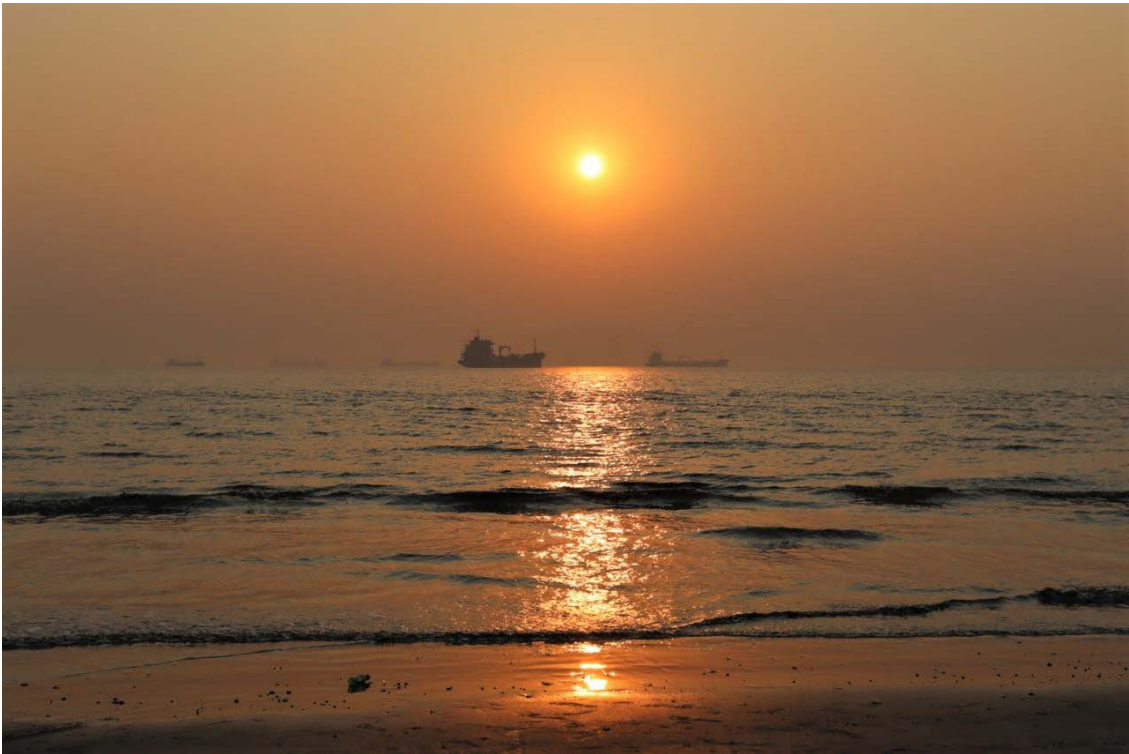


JIGME DORJEE BHUTIA -- CLASS 12 ARTS





**DIVYAM CHETTRI --- 11 SCIENCE**



**ARCHISMAN GAYEN  
CLASS --- 9D**



# Important Notice

The September issue of the Among Ourselves will be the last for the year 2021. The last date for submission of all articles is 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021.



*Thank you for reading Issue 3.*

*For all queries , suggestions , submissions and publication requests please contact us at [aosubmissions2021@gmail.com](mailto:aosubmissions2021@gmail.com)*

*Plesase also visit our school website for more updates at [www.sjcnorthpoint.com](http://www.sjcnorthpoint.com)*