



# THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY

11.05.2020  
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*Fr K. L. George, SJ*

## RECTOR'S *message*

The present lockdown has brought great anxiety and stress in everyone, regardless of any difference in one's identity or status. During such a distressing time serenity is perhaps the most sought after possession for all of us. To achieve serenity is no easy task. Awareness and equanimity are the two essential prerequisites to attain serenity. There are ways and means of attaining serenity. Techniques like Vipassan meditation could lead us on the path to serenity. The book *The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment* by Eckhart Tolle is a very powerful tool to lead us into a higher realisation, awareness, equanimity and serenity. In Indian tradition there is the path of the nām jap, reciting a short mantra to attain serenity. One such powerful mantra is the Serenity Prayer by Reinhold Niebuhr.

*God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change.  
The courage to change the things I can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.  
Living one day at a time,  
Enjoying one moment at a time;  
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;  
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is;  
Not as I would have it;  
Trusting that you will make all things right  
If I surrender to your will;  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life  
And supremely  
Happy with you for ever in the next.  
Amen.*

Let us lift our hearts in faith and trust to the Almighty with this prayer, to lead us on the path of awareness, equanimity and serenity; for this too shall pass away and all shall be well again. The true character of all North Pointers is *Sursum Corda* - to lift one's heart and not to sink in the face of adversity. May the Divine Wisdom guide and lead us on.



*Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ*

## *from the* PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Many of us might be waiting to get back to normal life. We all wish to live a normal life. But many of us might also be thinking of how we are to overcome this grim situation. Our future might look uncertain. But the world has seen many catastrophes like this one and has always triumphed over such tragedies. There are positive developments towards finding a vaccine which can bring cheers to all. Our only weapon is not to lose hope.

Even flowers find a way out, to make us happy, rising out of a parched land. There is a great energy in those delicate flowers which can overcome a harsh and seemingly impossible surroundings and environment.



I wish and pray that together we face the problem with smiles on our lips. Let our negative vibrations change into a moment of tranquility and peace. That we may take care of ourselves and our families and help those in need so that together we face a better tomorrow.



The hanging bridge reminds everyone that there is only one way possible and that is to use the bridge to get across. The joy of getting across will make us go through the bridge and might surprise us when we succeed.



# welcome

## TO NORTH POINT

DEAR STUDENTS OF CLASS 11,

North Point welcomes you as you begin your new academic year. A special congratulations to students from different schools on joining North Point. This is perhaps for the first time in our school's history that we are welcoming new students through online classes. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought the entire world into a standstill. Despite that, North Point continues to pave the way for our students, ensuring that our learning is continuous and engaging. The school is taking efforts to implement all available technologies for online classes. Teachers are using various resources to make sure the teaching learning process is active as ever.

Every graduate of North Point is to become an agent of change respecting all cultures, languages and religions and above all recognising the unique image and likeness of the Creator in every individual. His task is to love and serve his neighbour at all times by upholding the dignity of all and in particular the needy. By committing himself to the service of faith and promotion of justice, he is to lift up his heart, live and work for a just society where every individual will be fully alive, living an upright and humane life.

It is imperative to know your teachers in the Senior Division ( Classes 11 and 12). **So we present to you the Senior Division Faculty who will guide and mentor you for your ISC.**



**Mr D. N. Pradhan**  
Senior Headmaster  
Physics



**Mr Noel Rai**  
ISC Supervisor  
Political Science and Sociology



**Mr Swarup Biswas**  
Commerce



**Mr Julius Santiago**  
Class teacher for 11 'Arts'  
English  
(Class 11 'Arts' and 'Commerce')



**Mr Loveson C. Moyon**  
Economics



**Mr Lekhraj Gurung**  
Supervisor Classes 9 and 10  
Biology



**Mr Parag Ekka**  
History



**Mr Sajid Ahmed**  
English  
(Class 11 'Science')



**Mr Arpan Thapa**  
Class teacher for 11 'Science'  
Chemistry



**Mr Keshab Sharma**  
Geography



**Mr Ashes Chhetri**  
Mathematics  
(Class 11 'Commerce')



**Mr Pritam Pariyar**  
Computer Science



**Mr Aleen Lepcha**  
Fine Arts



**Mr Pranesh Tamang**  
Mathematics  
(Class 11 'Science')



**Mr Ajay Pradhan**  
Class teacher for 11 'Commerce'  
Accounts



**Mr Nayandra Lama**  
Fine Arts



*Mr Julius Santiago*

## LOCKDOWN PHOTOGRAPHY

Many of us, I know are battling ‘Corona claustrophobia’ at the moment. We are stuck in the confines of our homes, nauseated with the same daily routine, idiosyncrasies amplified to colossal proportions, the internet, social media and gadgets making us bionic brained organisms!

But this isn’t the entire picture. A lockdown can never truly lock down the creative genius of man, nor has it been able to shutdown technology. Keeping pace with the spread of the virus is this wave of creativity that is flowing on high tide around the globe. We too should ride its crest, before life gets back to normal and the tide begins to ebb.

I am certain all of you have cameras at home. It could be the ones on your cellphones, maybe a ‘point and shoot’ type or a DSLR. No matter what you have, you can work wonders with it.

Photography is great for the soul. It lets you see things your eyes would normally miss. It helps you capture a feeling for eternity. It helps you relive a moment lost forever. You need not move out of your homes to take good photos. Just compose your shots well. Photography begins in the mind, in the imagination. Choose a subject, a location and decide your lighting.

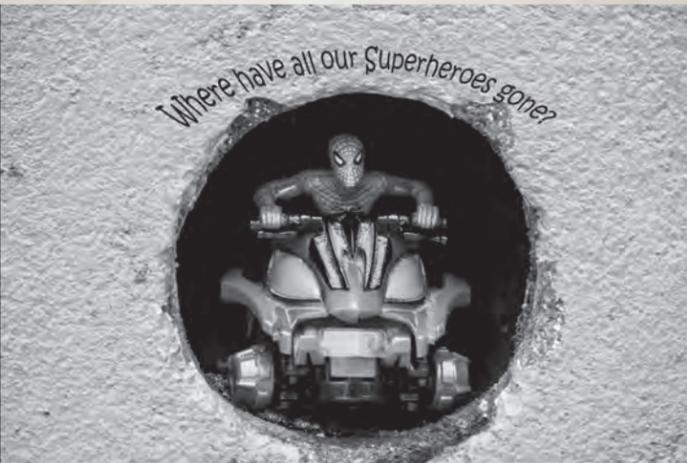
You could pick simple everyday things like your pair of school shoes, the salt and pepper shakers, and your collection of toy cars or super heroes. Slice an onion in half and shoot it. ‘Scenes from my Window’- would be a lovely project to work on during these times.

Try portraits of the family members at home. Pets are always fun to photograph. If you are doing live subjects, try to capture interesting expressions on their faces. This is a wonderful time to try Food Photography. Click before you eat!

Lighting is awesome to work with. Choose different sources of light. You could use fluorescent, tungsten, coloured LED or natural sources like candlelight and lanterns. Try sepia or monochrome tones.

Changing the direction of the light to create different effects on the subject can be rewarding. Angles from which you take your shots are also important. Experiment with different angles. You can try the Medium, Close-up, Long shots; the Low, Eye-level or High angles to begin with.

There’s a lot you can do and experiment with. Try taking the same shot over and over again till you are happy. You just need to start. Get hold of your cameras and start shooting!





Mr Loveson C. Moyon

# Stay Out of Your Own Way

In millions of homes across the globe this very minute parents are juggling like never before as they struggle to teach their children while earning a living during the corona virus lockdown. With their normal weekday routines gone many of the children will be finding it hard to suddenly have Mum and Dad as teachers.

If that sounds like you take some comfort in the knowledge that even one of the world's best teachers admits her own kids aren't keen on being taught by her. Even teachers will say their hardest students are their own children.

While everything is locked down it becomes boring and monotonous during these unprecedented times. However children respond well to structure and routine so my advice is to implement their learning at the same time every day.

The first and best victory of winning is to conquer yourself. Very often a change of self is needed more than a change of scenery. Only you can hold yourself back. There is no one to stop you but you.

Talk back to your internal critic "If you want to move your greatest obstacle, realize that your obstacle is yourself and the time to act is now" – Nido Cubein.

Remember, "One of the nice things about problems is that a good many of them do not exist except in your imaginations" – Steve Allen. The fear you fear is in yourself and nowhere else.

Most of the important battles we face will be waged internally. There are two forces warring against each other inside us. One says "you can't!" while the other says "with God you can!". Be encouraged by this fact found in the book of Matthew "with God all things are possible".

Obstacles are what we see when we take our own eyes off the goal, keep our eyes on the goal and remember that you are not alone in your struggle. The basic problems most people have is that they are doing nothing to solve their basic problems which is that they build a case against themselves – they are their own enemy.

What we are, good and bad, is what we have thought and believed. Therefore don't put water in your own boat, the storm will put enough on its own.

Don't dream up thousands of reasons why you can't do what you want to, find one reason why you can. It is easier to do all the things you should do than to spend the rest of your life wishing you had.

Determine to multiply your commitment, divide your distractions, subtract your excuses and add your faith. The first key you must win is over yourself. "Stay out of your own way" – David Blunt.



Mr Rajeshwar P. Gupta

## लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान

लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान,  
सत्ता का है, यह फरमान।  
भारत से उखाड़ फेंकने का,  
जन-जन का है, यह आह्वान,  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान।  
मां ने हमको जन्म दिया है,  
पाल पोश कर बड़ा किया है,  
धरती मां ने अन्न जल देकर,  
शक्ति हमें प्रदान किया है,  
भारत मां की रक्षा करने का,  
व्रत लिया है हमने ठान,  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान,  
सत्ता का है - -  
अपने घरों में बन्द पड़े हैं,  
अपनों से अब जुड़े हुए हैं,  
वृद्ध जनों की सेवा करने को,  
अपने पथ पर अड़े हुए हैं,  
आस पड़ोस में कोई भी,  
न पाए भूखा इंसान,  
इसका रखना है पूरा ध्यान,  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान,

कोरोना रुपी संक्रामक से,  
आज विश्व व्यापित है,  
धरा का यह प्रमाण,  
फरा सो झरा, बरा,  
सो बुताना है।  
उत्थान के बाद पतन होता है,  
यह विश्व विदित है,  
आज कोरोना रुपी कहर से,  
मानव से मानव पीड़ित हैं,  
यह कैसा है? विधी का विधान,  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान  
सत्ता का है यह-फरमान।  
यातायात सब बन्द पड़े हैं,  
अर्थ व्यवस्था मरी पड़ी है,  
यत्र -तत्र सब लोग फंसे हैं,  
अपनो से ही दूर हुए हैं,  
मजदूर वर्ग लाचार खड़े हैं,  
भौतिक संसाधन लुप्त हुआ है,  
आज मानव त्रस्त-पस्त हुआ है,  
संयम एक मात्र साधन है,  
छोड़ कर अब अपना अभिमान,

"सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामयः  
सर्वे भद्राणि दुःख मा भागवेत।  
कोरोना रुपी कहर का,  
एक मात्र है, यही निदान,  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान,  
सत्ता का है यह-फरमान।  
"मानुष बलि नहिं होत है,  
समय होत बलवान",  
कलियुग के इस प्रथम चरण में,  
ईश्वर का कर लें गुणगान,  
छू मन्तर हो जाएगा,  
कोरोना का अपना अभिमान  
लॉकडाउन का करें सम्मान,  
सत्ता का है यह-फरमान।  
राजेश्वर प्रसाद गुप्त,



*“When you graduate from **North Point**, you become part of a global network of creative, innovative and generous people.”*

The school has created a new **NP ALUMNI PAGE** in the official school website. We hope to establish a network, where our Alumni from all around the world can connect with each other and with us.

Visit the school website at <https://www.sjcnorthpoint.com/alumni/index.php> and sign up today



*Omang Agarwal  
Cardinal Picachy Gold Medalist  
ISC -2015*

## *What's Not Bad About COVID-19*

There are two features very peculiar to me that I've tried to cope up in this article, the first being my batch's experiences with political turmoil and the second you will come across as you read.

I graduated from school in 2015, which means we saw quite a few political lockdowns through the schooling days. Unlike the current one, those lockdowns forced only a batch of students to lag behind, sacrifice healthy learning and co-curricular environments while the world stayed on.

And as I take you through few interesting (at least I think so) thoughts I've also tried to add a fun element, which by the way is the second most peculiar feature I will try and cope with here.

The question being *“How do you stay relevant if you are facing a disadvantage with classrooms being closed while also making sure you have fun?”*

We've all survived a few long winter holidays and I used to ask myself the exact same question every December. Luckily for me, my parents always got me into tuition classes and winter camps made me more responsible if nothing else.

Cutting straight to chase here. Learning more and developing ourselves constantly is not part of the larger Indian culture let alone hill etiquettes. I realised it while travelling through 22 countries during one of my jobs with the Commonwealth.

Coming straight, yes students in other countries do it. And Oh Boy! they nail it down.

Fortunately for them, it counts as scores in their examinations. Unfortunately for us, there is no column on our report cards that's filled by anything beyond scores.

The question then is *“Why should I even do it?”* For starters, since it doesn't count, nobody else will bother doing it if you don't take it upon

you. Digging further, if you don't do it now, it might get a little too late.

2020 is different, a graduate is today expected to be good with Data Analysis and soft skills and if by any chance you're looking at a fancy degree, you're probably one out of many if you don't have a hobby.

Now, remember me telling you this would be fun? Well it is, as students in a very forward looking society we have crazy hobbies and well we're really good at many things. Those graphic skills of ours, that's the 3rd listed wanted skill globally, those musical, literature and communication skills, they make you stand out amongst the thousands of not million that you'd be facing competition with Tomorrow.

The world is changing and while geeks rule most parts, things are slowly coming to a situation where everyone interview in colleges or for jobs doesn't go ahead with the question *“What's your passion?”* Or *“what's something that makes you stand out”*.

While it may feel delusional, our skills are both our multi feathered caps and intellectual property. My message here is your skills maybe anything, use the time in your hand to nourish them and find out how that might make you stand out.

I've bundled these thoughts from my fellowship where I got an award from the Queen and spent a year at University of Cambridge and from working at Coursera the world largest education website. In school, I was good at communication and I now make a career out of Marketing.

And by the way at 25, I'm still learning. This week I learnt how to make a Comic book and I plan on doing that for a marketing project at my company. Like I said, no skill is low or small, all you need is to be serious at it and like Kipling said *“Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,”*

Hope I didn't bore you. Connect with me IG [@beingmango](#) for more thoughts.

## *Report on Distribution of Relief Materials during COVID-19 Crisis*



Amidst the COVID -19 pandemic, besides the fear of the virus, there is food crisis situation affecting the financially marginalized population the world over including the Darjeeling Hills. While those who have can stay home and maintain social distancing and self isolation, but the ones who have not, they are faced by the dual problem of CORONA virus and hunger.

On 29th April, the Executive members of Darjeeling North Point School Alumni Association also organized a trip to three different locations to distribute relief materials to those who were in need.

The first location visited was Ringtong, below Sonada. In this area, Ringtong Dara, Kalu Busty, Rajdal Busty, Margaret's Hope and Mali Busty were covered, where relief materials were distributed to very needy families identified with the help of Mr. M.D Rai and Randip Rai from the local Samaj. Then the next area visited was Rani Hitti below Rajbari, and finally the Mineral Spring (Dabaipani) area. In the Mineral Spring area, needy families from eight different samaj, (namely Saila Dhura Samaj, Balbir Dhura Samaj, Dukha Sewa

Samaj, Balsing Sudhar Samaj, Ghattay Siman Bijay Samaj, Yankho Gram Mitra Samity and Bhutia Busty Dabaipani Ward No.3) were identified with the help of CORONA control Committee, Lebond, and relief materials distributed, a part of the area belonging to Kurseong Sub Division. Each package contained Potatoes, Onions, Dal, Oil, Chaana, soya bean, Salt, Biscuits, Haldi and chili packets, fluffed rice and beaten rice. A total of 2360 Kgs of food provisions were distributed to more than 150 BPL families from 14 different samaj.

I wish to thank the Executive members who braved to venture forth for the distribution relief materials even during such an unprecedented situation and travelled across these areas lending a hand to our faltering brothers and sisters. SURSUM CORDA.

**Deven Gurung**  
President  
DNPSAA

## AUTUMN ASHES

ہدی شوپ  
(posheeda)

I don't need to tell you I love you  
To tell you I love you -  
When stars are the brightest  
In the cold dark sky,  
With vultures flying in  
Myriad cultures and scenes;  
Where the sun doesn't set  
For it never awakens as  
It lies in the shattered ruins  
Amongst the sands of a deserted beach.

To tell you, how it harmonises me  
With every string you pluck  
From my bones inked with  
Blood and freedom from  
This exhausting war that I've been fighting.  
To tell you how it kills me  
To see you see more  
Than what I see in me  
Since the day I saw it all  
Sucked severely in a synonym of apocalypse.

I do not need to show you that I want you.  
To tell you how much it means  
For this moment being lived

Under carbon-grey skies, trying  
To be loved as it hails ashes  
Like maroon maples in autumn cry.  
Why aren't clouds vantablack  
When all it ever does is absorb  
The light, from me completely  
Whilst I stare, breath deprived.

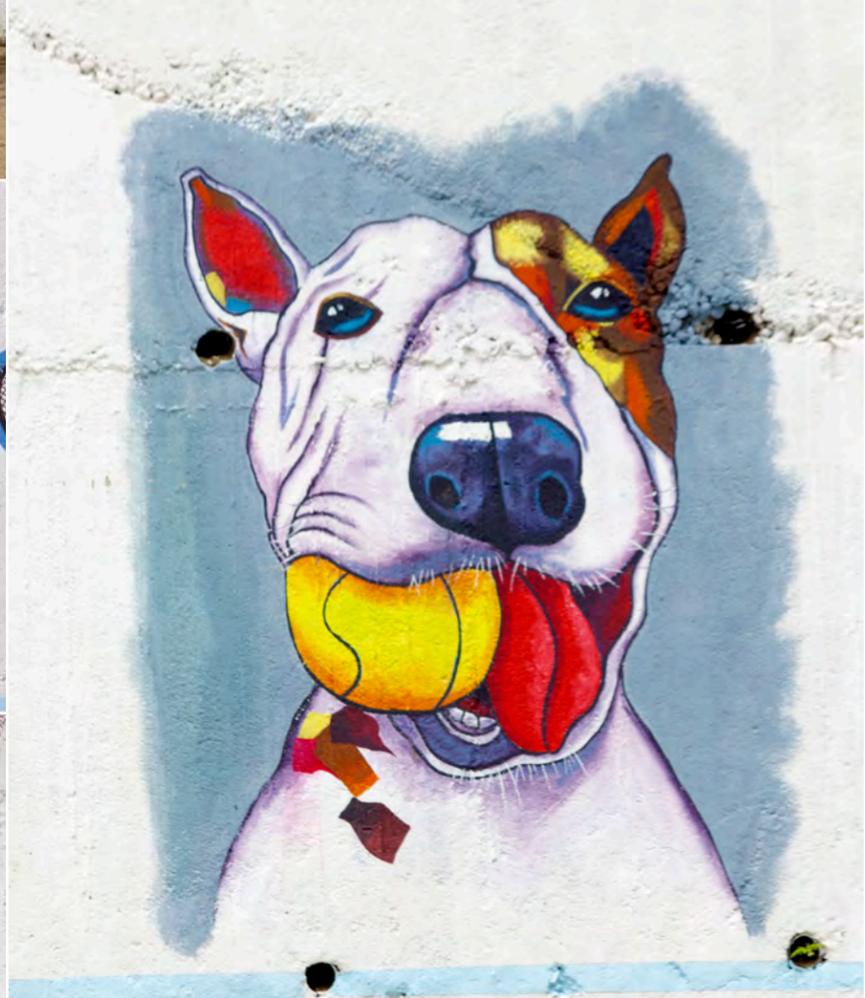
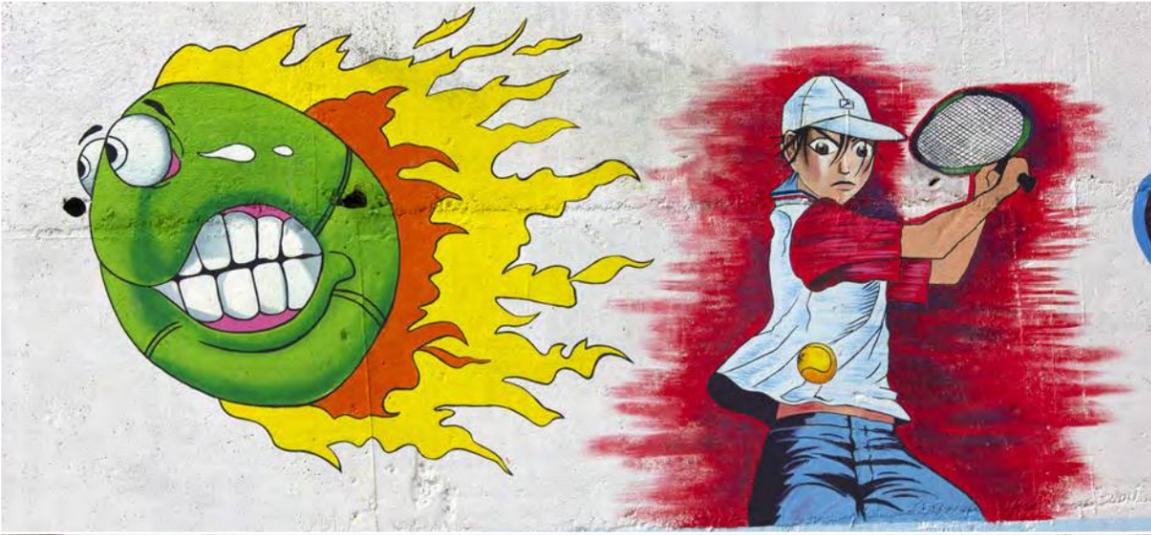
Exhausted from the exasperation  
Of this monumental paradise;  
Disgraced by the demolition  
Some consequences caused in my life;  
Miserably haunted by false  
Aspirations of a time where  
I could, no, I did commit crimes.  
Apologies, I would've nearly  
Killed my body that abides  
By my soul and screams -  
I do not need to tell you I love you,  
To tell you I love you.  
For to tell you this,  
Would be not loving you.

*(This poem was written by a North Pointer who prefers to go by his pen-name)*

# U. D. Field Artwork

DONE BY

Mr Aleen Lepcha and Mr Nayandra Lama



# CREATIVE N.P.

## Dissecting the Pandemic



The city of Wuhan was plunged into an air of shudder on the 30th of December, 2019 when all of a sudden, hundreds of residents were diagnosed with pneumonia. The cluster of cases spread all over the presently infamous Hubei Province in a matter of a few days. One week later, on the 7th of January 2020, the Chinese authorities confirmed that they had identified a novel (new) coronavirus as the cause of the pneumonia.

At the time of this writing, the world has witnessed 272,000 deaths and is just short of 40,000 COVID-19 cases to 4 million patients around the globe.

With pools of information available online today, almost all people are cognizant of the COVID-19 to be a coronavirus of bat origin. It exhibits 96.2% full genome identity with a similar Coronavirus from *Rhinolophus affinis* bats in Yunnan, China. In the current outbreak, a high proportion of the early cases were linked to the notorious Huanan Seafood Market in Wuhan. However, the original spill over event to humans may not have happened at the market itself but elsewhere, with the market serving as a location for viral contamination and further exposure of humans.

Paradoxically, the advancement of the modern world is the biggest factor to what has made the virus, SARS-CoV-2 exceedingly vexing - simply the bustle of people perpetually travelling around the world was enough to transition the "Chinese Virus" into a global pandemic and shut us down in our homes for months under the shadow of lockdown. To date, this is thought to be the largest quarantine restriction in human history to prevent infectious disease spread and help contain the outbreak.

However, mankind is not oblivious to disease outbreaks. The first known significant outbreak of a disease was recorded in the 14th century. The "Black Death" as we know it today, claimed a staggering 200 million lives which was about 21% of the world's total population at that time. Then there was the Spanish Flu of 1918 which infected 500 million people - about a third of the then world's population. Based on the records of past outbreaks and on the opinions of experts, all us global citizens need to learn and design strategies, both at a personal and a global level, in order to tackle the disease.

The strongest weapon to battle the pandemic is Research & Development. The myriad of "stakeholders" - the word the World Health Organisation uses, play important roles in it. They include us, the communities affected by the outbreak; national and international researchers; governments of various countries; multilateral agencies like the WHO; humanitarian organizations; developers and manufactures; charitable foundations; and numerous collaborative research networks. Each stakeholder brings with it different values and perspectives thus strengthening the world's ability to eradicate the pandemic.

The treatment and the eventual eradication of the unprecedented disease remain two colossal conundrums. Researchers around the world are continuously conducting clinical trials, i.e., research investigations in which people volunteer to test new treatments; to forage a therapeutic for the virus. Over 1,600 clinical trials have been conducted globally on various drugs and medicines originally used to treat other diseases. However, "Solidarity", an international clinical trial launched by the WHO and partners have selected four options: *Remdesivir*, which was previously tested as an Ebola treatment; *Lopinavir/Ritonavir*, which is a licensed treatment for HIV; Interferon beta-1a, which is used to treat multiple sclerosis; and *Hydroxychloroquine*, used to treat rheumatology conditions.

Entering the eradication sphere however, according to Edmund Soon-Weng Yong, a British science journalist, there are three potential ways the pandemic could come to an end: the unlikely way, the dangerous way and the likely way.

Ed Yong postulates that the unlikely way would involve complete eradication by putting quarantine and social distancing measures into action like the original SARS outbreak of 2003 which could be easily identified and isolated. However, that is not the case with SARS-Cov-2, a much stealthier

virus which can be spread by people not showing any symptoms. Moreover, considering how far the situation has already escalated and how badly many developed countries are faring, the odds of worldwide synchronous control of the virus seem vanishingly small.

The dangerous way for how the pandemic might end is the fastest but precarious one. It involves the virus to spread quickly, infecting most people under the assumption that after recovering, most of them would become immune to the virus. This is called "herd immunity". The problem with this method however is that the world will be left with tens of millions of people dead.

The likely way is the most realistic approach yet the most complicated and the longest. The general idea of this approach is that we keep up with the social distancing and quarantine measures while stamping out scattered outbreaks. The goal here is to "flatten the epidemic curve". i.e., to minimize the number of infections per day so as to not to put tremendous amount of pressure on the healthcare systems which might potentially result in their collapse. This is being avoided at all costs by the countries affected by the pandemic. Countries like South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, New Zealand and even China have substantially flattened the curve.

There is also another possibility wherein the virus turns out to be seasonal - much like the 1918 Flu. The flu becomes less transmissible as temperatures and humidity rise in the summer months. If SARS-CoV-2 is seasonal, it be with us for a long time and integrate into our ecosystem like the Spanish Flu.

Therefore, to completely extirpate the virus, we ultimately need a vaccine.

On 9th of April this year, the Journal Nature reported that 78 vaccine projects had been launched round the globe - with a further 37 in development. According to Bill Gates and Professor Sharon Lewin AO, the first vaccine effort to be entirely successful will take 18 months, which is remarkable considering we've never created a vaccine in less than five years. Also, "This requires incredible collaboration. It's going to have to go to 7 billion people." - Bill Gates.

In these despairing times, when we are being buzzed with constant news of the Coronavirus, we need to realize that the realities of quarantine measures aren't actually bitter. In a crisis, it is often forgotten that communities have well recognized potential to self-organize and help; and that these processes are influential to epidemic trajectories. Our trust and interpersonal cooperation that emerge in response to a collective effort will aid in tackling a major public health crisis.

Life in our personal and global level will entirely change after the Coronavirus. There will emerge a "Humbled resurrected Humanity", as Mr. Andre LeFevre says. Optimism is key; and as Kitty O'Meara puts it in her poem, In the Time of Pandemic, "And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed."

- Awanish Gazmer & Mohammad Moosa  
Class 12 'Science'



SUDHANGSHU  
RAI  
Class 9 A

# ANIMAL FARM

## A Book That was Ahead of its Time

On the 17th of August 1945, a novella called ANIMAL FARM written by George Orwell was published. It was only after 72 years that I would have the honour of reading this book as a part of my school curriculum.

On the surface level animal farm can appear as just another mediocre classic book for the average Joe. In this context an average Joe is someone who hasn't read the book as there is not a single person I have come across who has disliked the book after reading it. George Orwell masterfully created a whole book as an allegory to the RUSSIAN REVOLUTION and its aftermath. Frankly speaking, this masterpiece of a book was way ahead of its time and If you happen to pair up ANIMAL FARM with its more 'popular' cousin, "1984", then you will have two of the greatest books to have ever written in the history of literature. You can write so much about so many things in this books and even the most mediocre detail will feel important. There are so many things that I love about this novel and hardly any time to express it all, but above all the things that I love and admire about this book ... It is its relevance in the modern era which impresses me the most.

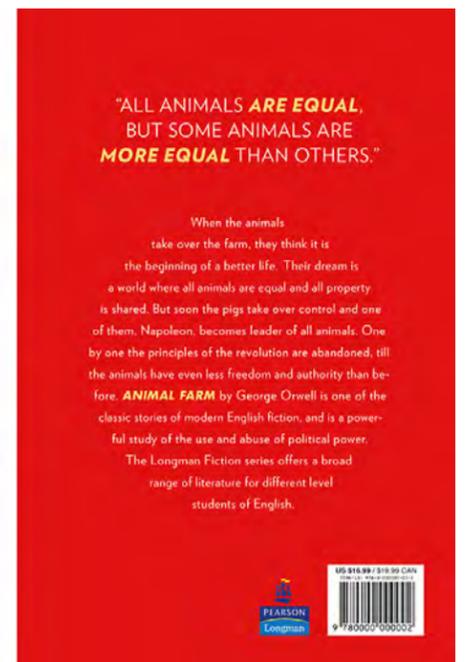
As mentioned earlier this book is an allegory, i.e. it can be interpreted to reveal a different meaning or a reference to something else. ANIMAL FARM was written to highlight the events of the Russian revolution, its success and what followed.

First and foremost, the simple detail which I admire about this book the most is the choice of George Orwell to use animals as a metaphor and not real existing people. He even segregated and gave the roles of various historical figure to the animals on the basis of their level of intelligence .He purposely gave the pigs the role of the Bolshevik leaders as pigs are realistically very intelligent compared to other animals. Subtle details such as this makes reading ANIMAL FARM a pure joy.

The themes of ANIMAL FARM frequently revolve around equality, justice, freedom and how the reign of the humans i.e. the monarchy was poisonous for the animals. The whole first act of the book solely dedicates towards establishing humans as the antagonists and the animals as the exploited protagonists. The book accomplishes in making us invested in the lives of these farm animals. *WE WANT THEM TO OVERTHROW THE HUMAN TYRANTS, WE WANT THEM TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN RULE AND CREATE A FARM WHERE ALL ANIMAL S ARE EQUAL.... a utopia without class.* Sounds familiar?

By the time we reach the second act we can see the utopia that was promised was not so great. This is where the book shifts away from the focus of the excitement of the uprising and ventures towards the political and corrupt actions performed by the pigs. The reason why I say that this book is so relevant even in modern times is solely because of the second act. This second act alone contains various plots and sub plots which eventually tie in giving a shocking conclusion. It is over here where we get to see the dark side of the pigs and no I'm not talking about a possible Pink Floyd concept album. This act is infamous for highlighting the dirty deeds of politicians and corrupt bureaucrats. We can still relate this part of the book in the modern context with the vices of a ruling government and the various untold things which they prefer to keep away from the public eye. It is also in this act where they use propaganda as a weapon to reassure the animals, and frankly speaking when has unnecessary propaganda never been relatable in the history of mankind.

Finally when the reach the third act we can clearly see that the utopia that was once promised so long ago was actually a dystopia. Communism failed instead totalitarianism flourished. While reading the book if you had



noticed.... The more the story progressed, more did the animals start behaving like humans. This is where all that you thought were to be true and righteous are questioned. There is no equality in the farm, all animals are subjugated to the wrath of the pigs and its only at the end of the novel while you read the ending lines that you realize that the only theme that mattered was the theme of change.

*"THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY REMAIN THE SAME".*

That's what the novel had been trying to tell throughout the entirety of its story. It was not about equality ... after all "all animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others". It was about how the people at the top can exploit and fool you by making you believe anything over the change in times. At the end everything comes in full circle, it's a never ending loop which you cannot escape. "Man serves the interests of no creature except himself."

The book in itself is a grim reminder of the horrors of the real world and the cruel reality of the politics of a country. Yes, it is a book which is a reference to the Russian revolution but more importantly it can be used as a reference to other countries or other forms of government.

Each type of government has its flaws and in each government there are those who are exploited and those who exploit. The story has you rooting for the animals as the protagonists in the first half of the book and by the time you reach the end the same protagonists have now turned into the antagonists.

Writing a ridiculously long essay doesn't do this masterpiece enough justice, it just gives you ample time to merely scratch off the tip of the iceberg. This book, whenever I read it back in class 9, somehow struck a personal chord with me. By that I don't mean that imp plotting to overthrow a government or anything but this book was the first book in my life with left me feeling shocked, satisfied, confused and enthralled all together at the same time. But don't take my word for it, GO READ IT. I am sure it will be worth your time. You can read and admire it as a form of literature or you can even break it down and view it from a political standpoint. The book will talk about what you think is right or wrong and elaborate it even further.

After all, *"The best books are those that tell you what you know already."*  
- George Orwell

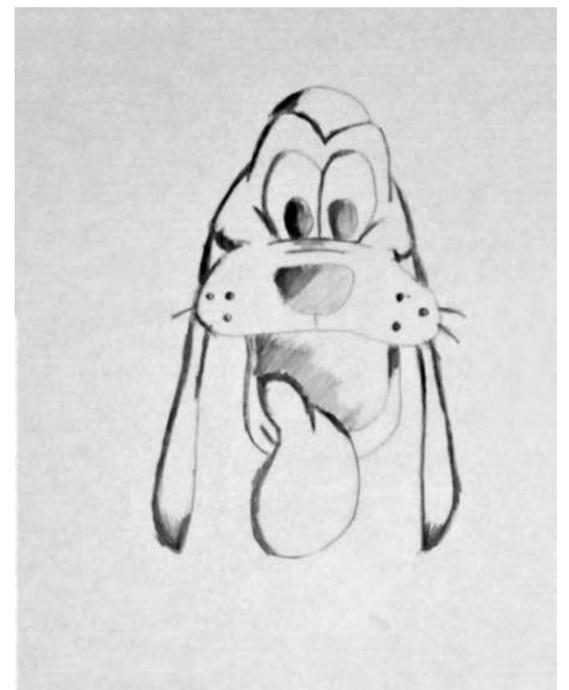
*Pravek Patrick Siting  
Class 12 'Arts'*



**TATHAGATA ROY**  
Class 10 C



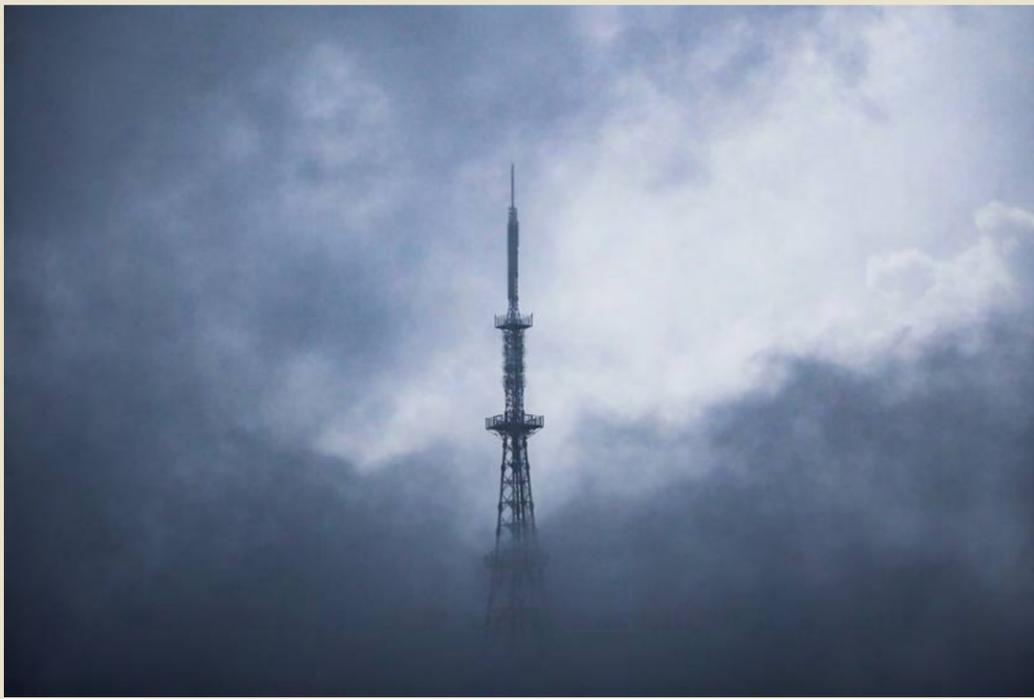
**GYALSTEN TSHERING YOLMO**  
Class 3 C



**ISANT GURUNG**  
Class 6 B



PICTURESQUE



NEHAL SYANGDEN



AYUSHMAN SHRESTHA

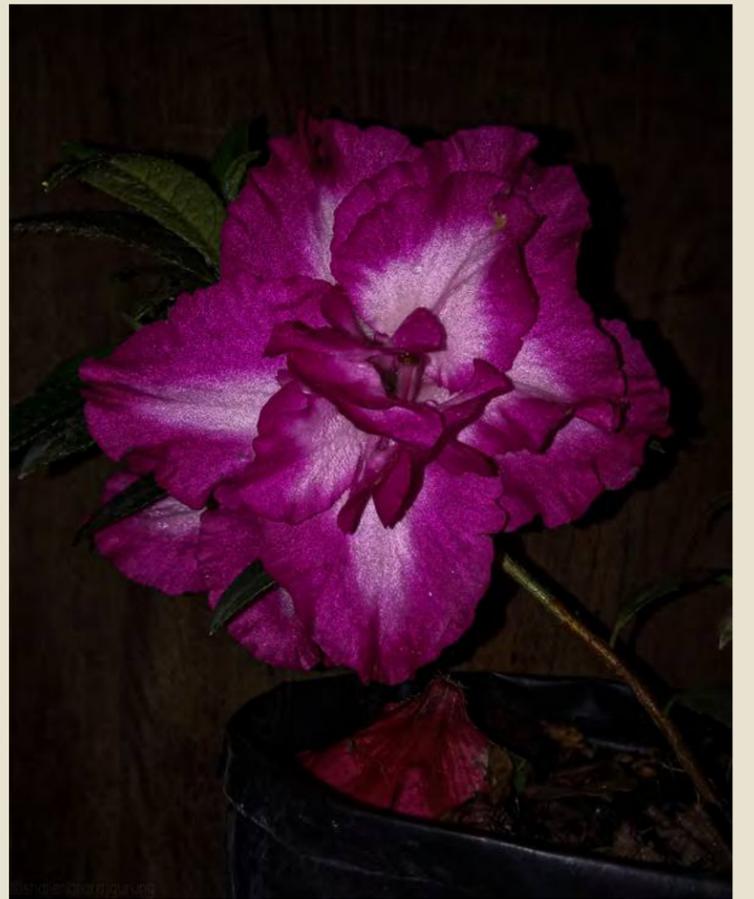
ANIRBAN MAHATA



ARHANT DAKSH CHETTRI



ARVINDRA RAJ GURUNG



# LOCKDOWN WATCHLIST

## Anime Edition

compiled by *Tshering Norbu Bhutia, Pravek Patrick Sitling and Mahin E Alam*

There are two types of Netflix subscribers – ones that watch anime and the ones that don't. Within a decade, anime has grown from a niche industry to a multi-billion-dollar market, thanks to the streaming networks, namely Netflix. According to reports, a substantial portion of Netflix's \$8 billion production budget for 2018 went to anime. So we for this edition of the Lockdown Watchlist, we present to you 8 handpicked anime movies and series for you to binge-watch at home.

### MOVIES



#### WEATHERING WITH YOU

Director: *Makoto Shinkai*  
Genre: *Romantic fantasy*  
Running time: *112 minutes*



#### MY NEIGHBOUR TOTORO

Director: *Hayao Miyazaki*  
Genre: *Fantasy*  
Running time: *86 minutes*



#### YOUR NAME

Director: *Makoto Shinkai*  
Genre: *Romantic fantasy*  
Running time: *107 minutes*



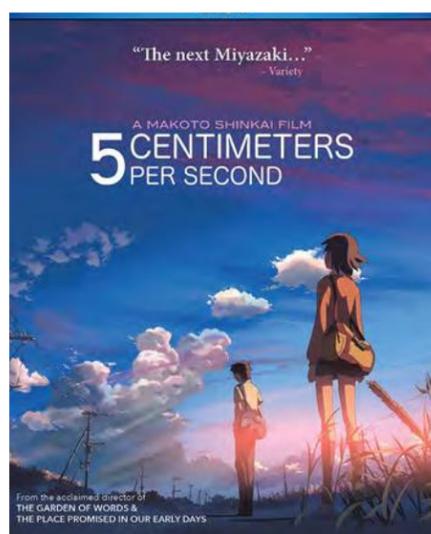
#### THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME

Director: *Mamoru Hosoda*  
Genre: *Science-fiction romance*  
Running time: *98 minutes*



#### A SILENT VOICE

Director: *Naoko Yamada*  
Genre: *Teen Drama*  
Running time: *130 minutes*



#### FIVE CENTIMETERS PER SECOND

Director: *Makoto Shinkai*  
Genre: *Romantic drama*  
Running time: *65 minutes*



#### SPIRITED AWAY

Director: *Hayao Miyazaki*  
Genre: *Fantasy*  
Running time: *125 minutes*



#### INTO THE FOREST OF FIREFLIES

Director: *Takahiro Omori*  
Genre: *Romantic fantasy*  
Running time: *44 minutes*

# SERIES



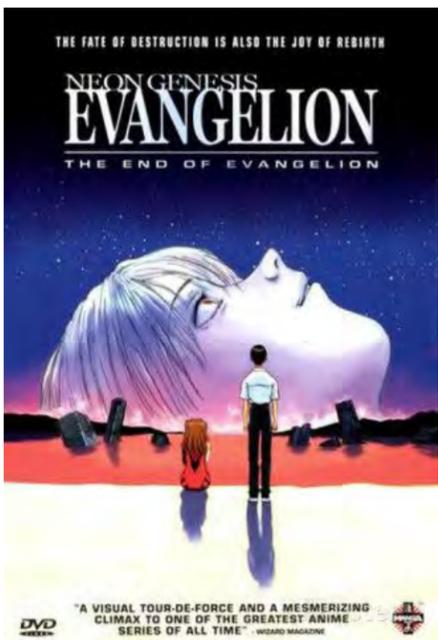
## FOOD WARS

*Genre: Comedy, Cooking, Slice of Life.*  
*Episodes: 75 (+ 5 OVAs)*



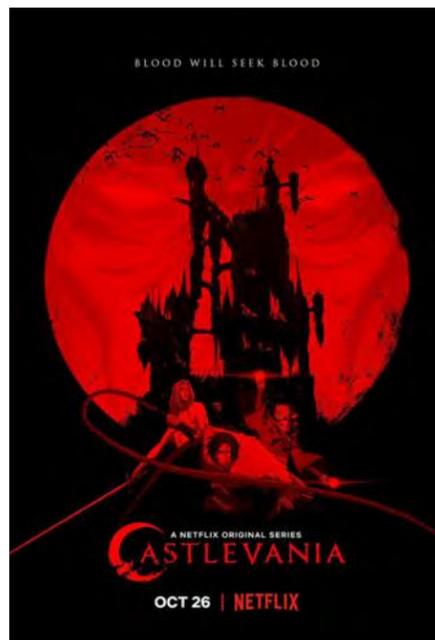
## ONE PUNCH MAN

*Genre: Action, comedy, superhero.*  
*Episodes: 24 (+ 10 OVAs)*



## NEON GENESIS EVANGELION

*Genre: Apocalyptic, mecha and psychological drama.*  
*Episodes: 26*



## CASTLEVANIA

*Genre: Drama, dark fantasy, action, adventure, horror.*  
*Episodes: 22*



## SEVEN DEADLY SINS

*Genre: Adventure and fantasy.*  
*Episodes: 24 (+ 2 OVAs)*



## ASSASSINATION CLASSROOM

*Genre: Adventure, science-fiction.*  
*Episodes: 47 (+1 OVAs)*



## DEMON SLAYER

*Genre: Adventure, dark fantasy, martial arts.*  
*Episodes: 26*



## ERASED

*Genre: Mystery, science-fiction, thriller.*  
*Episodes: 12*

# Q16

compiled by *Mr Udaya Mani Pradhan*

We present to you a set of thrilling questions to rattle your brains and awaken the curiosity in you.

For this issue we bring you something much more interesting. All the following questions are ***Darjeeling related*** compiled by a pantomath of Darjeeling history. And here's the catch - anyone who can submit the answers to us within 24 hours this issue is published, will be awarded a special prize which is sponsored by Mr Pradhan.

Happy Quizzing!!!

(P.S. - these questions are "un-googleable")

1. Who was the first Superintendent of Darjeeling?
2. Which heritage educational institution began as a small school at the Sunny Bank in Darjeeling in 1888?
3. Which was the first church to have been built in Darjeeling and in which year was the foundation stone laid?
4. What was the first engine built for the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway called?
5. Which college was opened in 1948 in the spacious buildings of the former St. Michael's School?
6. Name the great Hungarian philologist who died at Darjeeling in 1842?
7. What is the full name of one of India's oldest passenger ropeways which was commissioned in 1968?
8. What is the name of Darjeeling's oldest and prestigious sporting trophy which was established in 1917?
9. In which year was the Darjeeling Municipality established?
10. What was the Eastern Forest Rangers' College at Kurseong (no longer functional) originally called when it was erected in 1888 and belonged to the Jesuits?
11. Born on 5th November 1913 in Darjeeling, this Oscar winning actress studied at Loreto Convent, Darjeeling. Name her.
12. Formerly the Chinese 'Carlton Restaurant', what is it today?
13. Constructed in 1912, this ferro-concrete bridge overlooks a water cascade having a sheer drop of 80 feet. What is the name of this bridge?
14. Who spent six days in February 1829 in "An old Goorkha station of Darjeeling" and was attracted by its advantages as a site for a sanatorium?
15. Where and in which year were the first tea plantations in the Darjeeling hills established?
16. Which was the first European school to be founded in the District and in which year was it established?

#### Answers to Issue 4 questions: -

1. Lord Henry Lansdowne (a town in Uttarkhand today named after him), 2. The first NP Annual Magazine was published, 3. Damber Bahadur Budathoki, 4. The Cardinal Pichachy Gold Medal for Social Service, 5. Rev Father Anthony Sharma SJ, 6. Senior Headmaster Mr. DN Pradhan launched his debut musical Album (CD) this day, 7. Hamlet (Shakespeare was born in 1564), 8. Fr. Nash wrote the NP School Chorus and Fr. Hipp gave the music, 9. Les Miserables (a musical adopted from Victor Hugo's novel by the same name), 10. His Excellency MK Narayanan, the then Governor of West Bengal, 11. Miss. A Bowen (it is said that boys called her SIR as they were not used to any lady teachers in school till then, 'MISS' Bowen came later), 12. First Rector's Day celebration and the End of the first academic year in school history

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### CORRESPONDENTS

*Sonam Palden Wangchuk, Pravek Patrick Sitling and Himel Gattani*

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

Please also visit our official school website for more updates at

[www.sjcnorthpoint.com](http://www.sjcnorthpoint.com)

