



# THE NORTH POINT WEEKLY

20.04.2020  
Vol. 1 Issue 2



Fr K. L. George, SJ

## RECTOR'S message

*“There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,  
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy”  
(Hamlet Act 1, Sc.5, ll.166-167)*

Wisdom and Truth have no race or religion. I do not speak of relative wisdom and truth, but of the Ultimate or Absolute Wisdom and Truth - the Wisdom and Truth which the Sacred manifests. Our history is dotted with epoch-making revelation of truths and wisdoms at various stages of human progress, towards the realisation of the Ultimate Wisdom and Truth. Be it in the field of science, technology, philosophy, theology, ideas ideals or ideologies – humanity has taken huge strides down its history. That the whole of creation has been travelling in time and space toward that Omega Point has been aptly explained by the Catholic theologian Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Trying to understand the various human achievements and failures, peace initiatives, upheavals and wars, plagues and pestilences, one cannot but see the ups and downs in human efforts in moving toward that Omega Point. In the evolution of matter, mind and spirit humanity has achieved great heights of success and suffered inexplicable torture and pain. This proves the

presence of the primordial conflict between the Good and the Evil. So the *Bhagavad Gita* teaches us “*Whenever there is a decline in righteousness and an increase in unrighteousness, O Arjun, at that time I manifest myself on earth. To protect the righteous, to annihilate the wicked, and to re-establish the principles of dharma I appear on earth, age after age.*” (BG.4:7-8).

When Covid-19 stares at us and the pandemic brings upon us great destruction, what do we make of it. If our eyes and ears are open and our minds alert, we could recognise that we are being taught great lessons by the Sacred, by whichever name one might call IT. Perhaps we need to seek and find answers to serious questions such as, ‘Are we (the human species) treading the paths of destruction by crossing the *Lakhsman rekha* in our pursuit of knowledge, through science and technology?’; ‘Do we live a life of unbridled pride and arrogance personified in the mythical character Icarus?’; ‘Should we not rather listen to the Ultimate Wisdom and Truth the Lord is revealing to us in these days?’; ‘Are these the manifestations of the Divine to change our way of life, in order to re-establish the principles of dharma and righteousness?’. Let us heed to our Inner Voice and follow the righteous *mārgās* of our ancient land.



Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ

## from the PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear students,

*“Creativity is inventing, experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes, and having fun”* says Mary Lou Cook.

Being creative and growing with great positivity are the need of the hour. I am sure everyone of you is facing the present situation with great positive attitude. None of us are used to this type of situation ever before but the we can always learn something new from this situation because learning never ends. At the same time, staying healthy and lending a helping hand to the needy is the hour of the moment.

At this moment where everyone is relying on the network connections to be in touch with their loved ones and spend their time with their family members, you are also expected to complete the tasks at hand, the studies. I understand that poor network connections might bother you and almost most of you are not used to online classes and assignments. Owing to which some of you might be worried and completing the works on time is a herculean task.

Having said all these dear students, we are NORTH PONITERS. We never give up! We rise above every hurdle. And I know, you will do well despite difficulties.

At the same time, keep checking the School Website for regular updates on online classes, assignments, projects and other resource materials like *extramarks* and *meritnation*. They are there to help you along with your teachers’ notes and classes. If you have doubts please do mail your teachers and clarify your doubts. It is very difficult to have so many WhatsApp groups, with poor networks and hacking issues but you are free to have your own WhatsApp class groups or any other medium which is easier and discuss the lessons when you don’t understand and still if you have doubts, please mail the subject teacher. They will be happy to clarify your doubts. Every individual will not have the same doubt. Therefore, it is easy to clarify individually. Especially students of classes 9-12, please be in constant touch with your subject teachers and learn the subjects as best as you can because your responsibility is greater unlike the lower classes.

Be creative, experiment ideas, take risks and you will realize that you have grown wonderfully during the lockdown days. Help your parents. Learn something new every day. Have daily exercises and these will keep you busy as a bee. Take part in extracurricular activities, read good books, learn to cook, along with your regular studies. It is not about winning but taking part. Stay safe! Stay healthy! Stay Blessed! God Bless!

Sursum Corda!





*Mr Noel Rai*  
*Senior Coordinator*

## READING BOOKS *is it worth it?*

Friday the 13th March - the day we went to school last and the following day, our Didi announced lockdown in educational institutions in Bengal till 31st March which has now been extended to 10th June. The COVID – 19 has created havoc and distress all over the world and continues to do so.

During the ongoing lockdown, I am sure all of us are reading lots including a great deal of rumours too. Of the fifty best hobbies in the world, Reading is at the top of the list as per the surveys done.

What is so remarkable about this hobby – reading books? Reading books is an art and one enjoyable habit which once developed is deep rooted and difficult to get rid of. If you open a book, you open a treasure house of knowledge and wisdom, untold wealth is obtained by reading books. The famous English truism ‘A man is known by the company he keeps’, if put differently, can be ‘A man is known by the books he reads’. (My sincere apologies to all English language teachers for distorting this !!). A book is an unfailing friend and a good book entertains, enlightens and warms one’s mind and dispels boredom (Boredom of staying home at present !!). Books are there always to advise us when we go to seek advice from them.

By reading books, a good reader lives not in the present but also relives the past. I am sure all of you have heard of this great French philosopher

and a mathematician, Rene Descartes, who made one important connection between geometry and algebra and said that geometrical problems can be solved by algebraic equations. Descartes has said “The reading of all good books is like a conversation with finest minds of the past”. A good book, as said by many, is like a lighthouse which lights the paths for us, uplifts us morally, intellectually and mentally. Books are true guides which dispel the darkness of ignorance. Those of you who are well versed with the Bible – King David laying emphasis on reading the word of God writes “ Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a Light for my path “ (Psalms 119, verse 105).

Reading book is fun, enjoyable and good, not an expensive hobby but something which provides us with many benefits. North Point’s very own poet, lyricist and writer par excellence, Mr. Kamal Regmi says “ Reading book is an art which all cannot inculcate, it is not an inborn quality but is self achieved through one’s interest. Reading books enhance one’s knowledge and personality too. What types of books to read depends upon the taste of its readers but the knowledge gathered by reading provide immense joy and contentment? Books are oceans of knowledge, treasury of experience and the pinnacle of happiness”.

The habit of reading books provide opportunities for us to learn something. Books are available in all subjects – science, medicine, humour, art, literature history, travel, nature etc – all these contain enormous store of knowledge ; all that is required is the cultivation of the reading habit. Great knowledge is hidden in books. One has to read and find knowledge. The famous American novelist (also a physician) Khalid Hosseini (author of The Kite Runner, A Thousand Splendid Suns, And the Mountains Echoed) opines that “Reading is an active, imaginative Art”. As we wait for our schools to reopen, let us make effort to develop this habit of reading books. Let’s start Reading.

*Happy Reading!*

St. Joseph’s School

NORTH POINT  
DARJEELING



## COVID - 19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
TEACHERS, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

HELP THOSE WHO ARE GREATLY AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT

Name of the School - **ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE SCHOOL DEPT**

Name of the Bank - **UCO BANK**

Name of the Branch - **SINGAMARI**

IFS Code - **UCBA0002052**

Account Type - **SAVINGS**

Account no. - **20520100000015**

**#NOTE**

**ONCE SENT, PLEASE SEND THE RECEIPT AND NAME TO THE FOLLOWING MOBILE NUMBER**

**+91-7407401112**





*Dr Bikash Dewan  
FRCP (London)  
Batch of '79*

# *The* CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN *Do's and Don'ts*

Dear North Pointers,

I've been asked to give you some advice regarding Coronavirus, which, as you know, has been causing havoc around the world and is the reason behind this lockdown. First of all, let me congratulate each and every one of you for being such exemplary citizens and staying home with great discipline during the lockdown.

As many of you know, this is a virus which spreads very swiftly and easily. It is spread by tiny particles produced by coughing and sneezing. It can also cause infection by contact with any surface that has the virus particles on it.

There is no medicine as yet but a lot of research is being carried out and we should hopefully have a vaccine to fight it, though this will take some time.

**In the meantime, here's what you should do:**

**1. Stay at home.** This simple measure is one of the best ways of ensuring that the virus doesn't spread.

**2. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water.** This will remove any virus that might have been attached to your hands. Avoid touching your face. Look up "Correct hand washing technique" on YouTube.

**3. Practise social distancing.** This means you try and maintain a distance of approximately 2 metres between yourself and another person. This also means that you avoid overcrowding. For essential goods, one person from a household should go shopping. Try and get most of the required items in one trip. It is really inadvisable to make frequent trips to the shops, however tempting that might seem. It is not okay to meet with friends for a chat. You can chat and play games online. For medical problems, first seek medical advice on the phone from your local doctor. Do not rush to hospital.

**4. Wear a mask whenever you're outdoors.** You can make your own mask, using any suitable piece of cloth, such as a hanky or a scarf. People with a cough or cold should wear a mask at all times.

**5. Spend time with your family.** You will never get this opportunity again.

**6. Take extra care of the elderly and those with other illnesses.** Look after those who are less financially well-off than you – your maid, cook, and security guard – are they well? Do they have enough food at home?

**7. Exercise for at least 30 minutes a day.** This can be simple free hand exercises e.g. walking around the house, etc.

**8. Do your homework and continue with your studies.** Remember that you will come back to school when the lockdown is over. Make a timetable, if you haven't already – allocate time for study, exercise, relaxation.

**9. Don't neglect animals, whether they're your pets or not.**

**10. Do not believe in, or spread fake news.** Listen to and read from only genuine news sources.

**11. Follow government guidelines.** These are not randomly made up by the Prime Minister but he is advised by a large team of experts. They are for your safety.

**12. Educate those around you.** Even people older than you may not be aware of the ways to tackle this virus.

The prolonged lockdown period is definitely boring and frustrating. However, it is up to you to take advantage of this time. You can choose to spend it being afraid and angry. You could, on the contrary, utilize this period in improving yourself!

You can pursue your interests and learn new skills too. You can read, write a blog, paint, sing or compose songs, watch movies – the list is endless. Take advantage of the internet, (with parental approval). There are many online courses, often free. For example, those of you who wish to learn more about preserving the environment can look up *tieedi\_forest\_garden* on Instagram and follow their links for a five day free online course (hurry-places limited). If you're a wildlife enthusiast, The Kruger National Park in South Africa is live streaming two safari rides a day. You can catch this on YouTube at 9.30 am and 7 pm daily. There's also the *WhiteHatJr coding class* where you can learn to build apps !

This is a tough time for all of us but think of it as a chance to develop patience, discipline and compassion. Please continue to be courageous, responsible and strong North Pointers.

This too shall pass.

***Sursum Corda!***



## Working from home

### Advised

For anyone aged 0-69

### Strongly advised

Anyone 70+

Those with an underlying health conditions  
Pregnant women



## Use less public transport

### Advised

For anyone aged 0-69

### Strongly advised

Anyone 70+

Those with an underlying health conditions  
Pregnant women



## Visits from friends and family

### Advised against

For anyone aged 0-69

### Strongly advised against

Anyone 70+

Those with an underlying health conditions  
Pregnant women



## Socialising outside home

### Advised against

For anyone aged 0-69

### Strongly advised against

Anyone 70+

Those with an underlying health conditions  
Pregnant women



**Wash your hands frequently** with soap and water or use a sanitizer gel



**Throw away used tissues**  
(then wash hands)



**Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth** with unwashed hands



**Avoid close contact with people** who are unwell



If you don't have a tissue  
**use your sleeve**

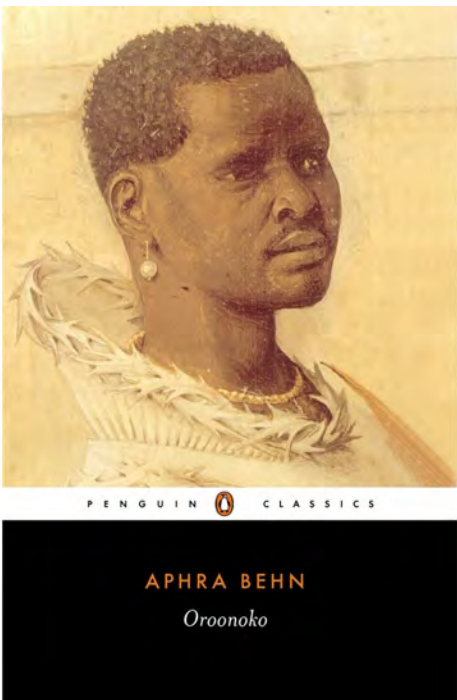
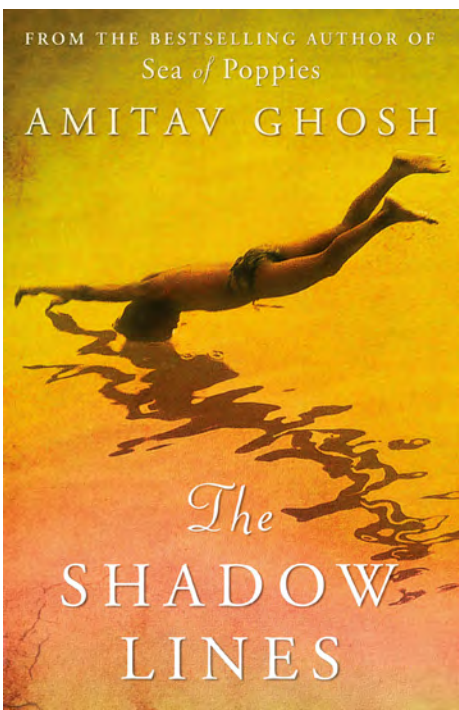
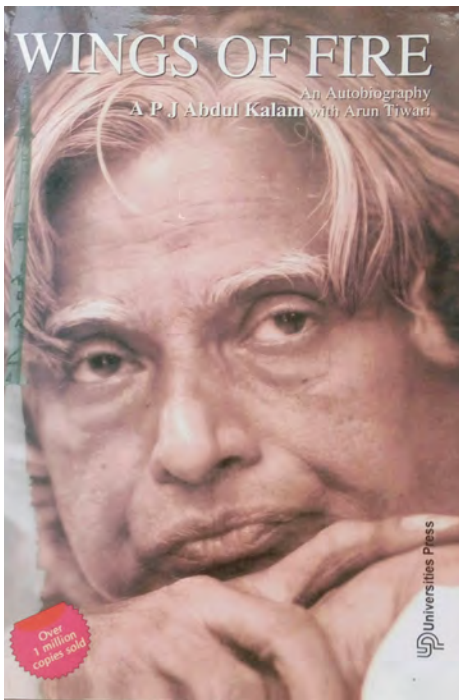
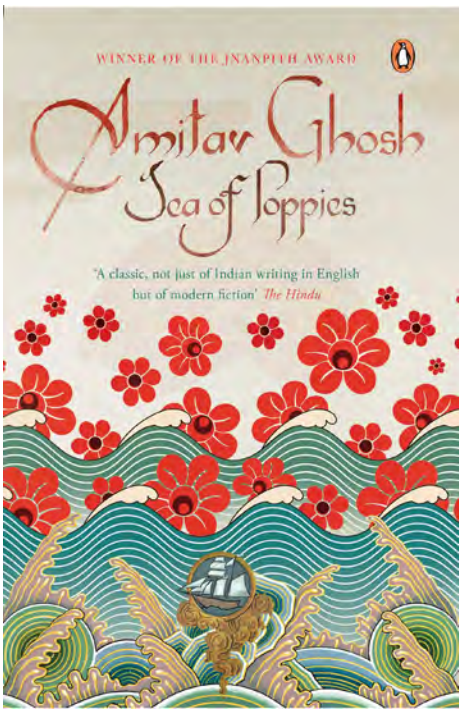


Catch cough and sneezes with  
**disposable tissues**



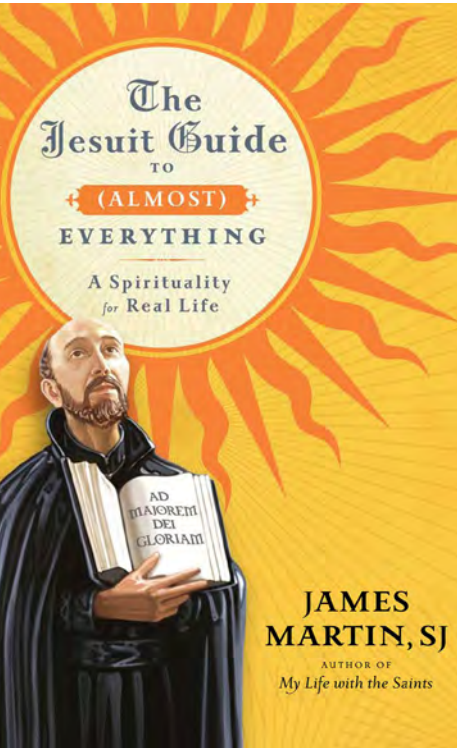
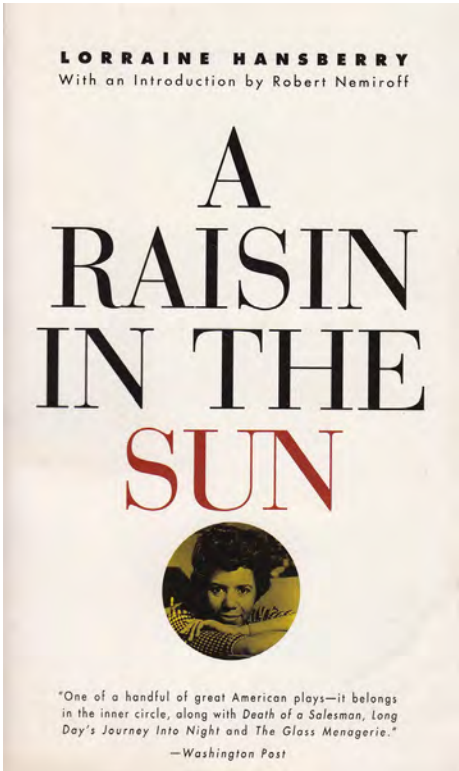
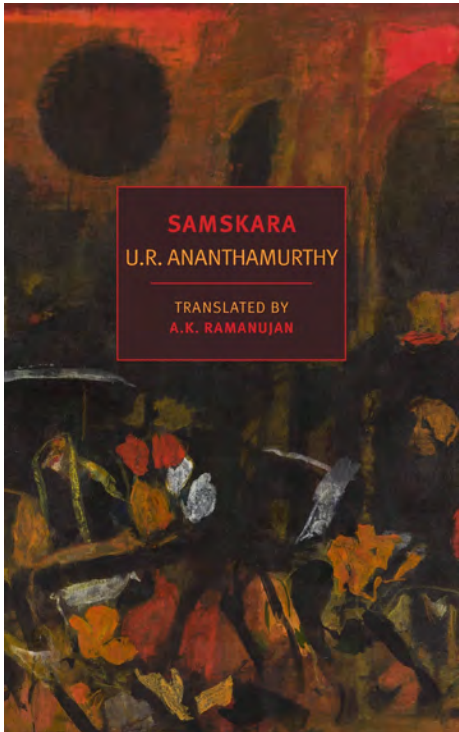
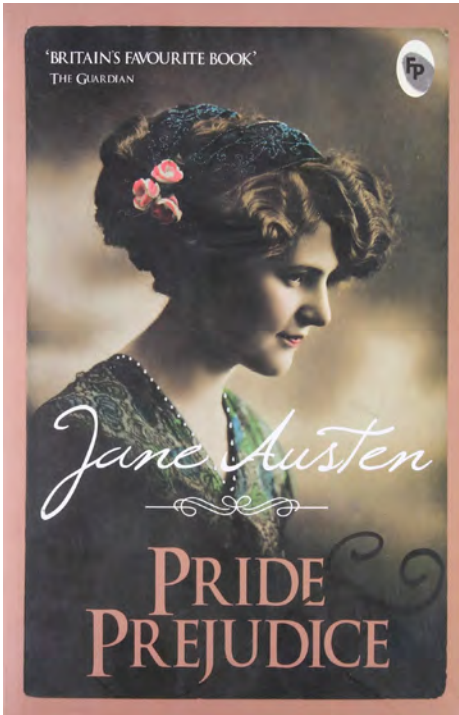
# LOCKDOWN BOOKLIST

compiled by *Fr Leo Alphonse Raj, SJ*



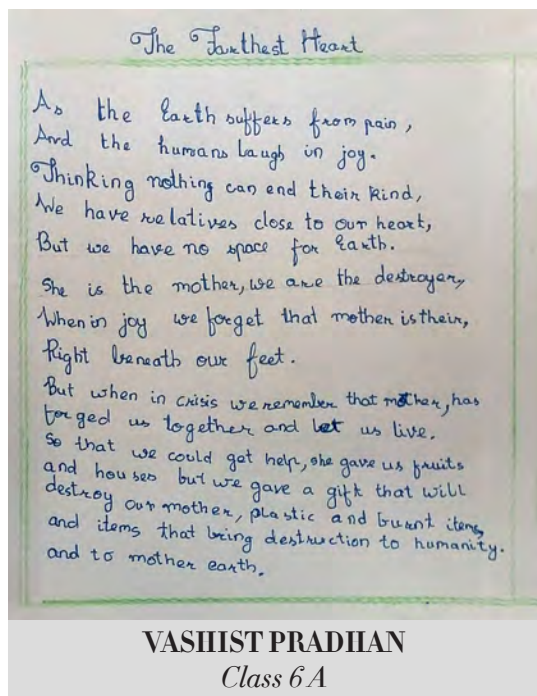
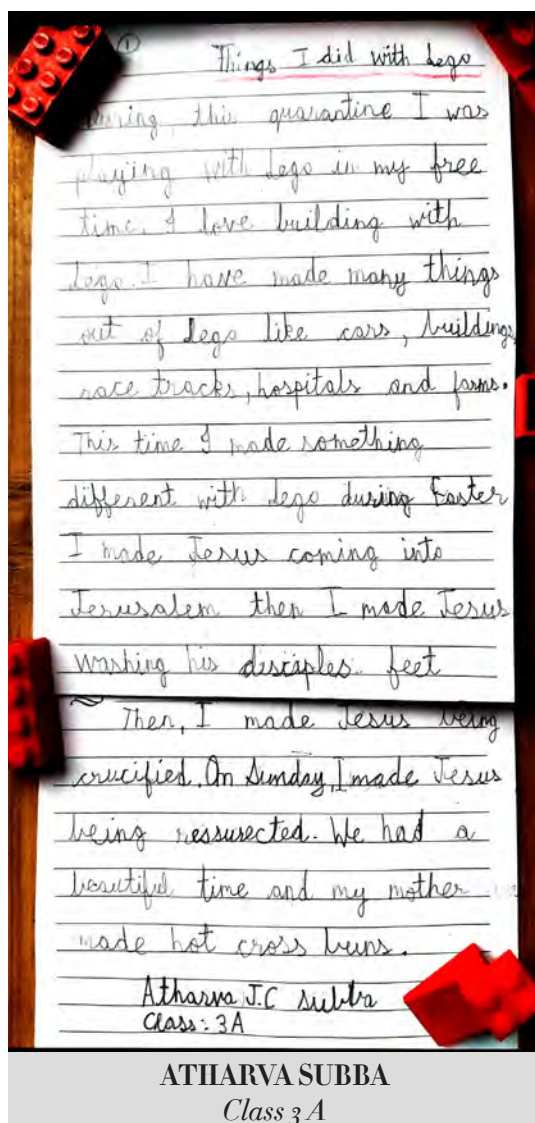
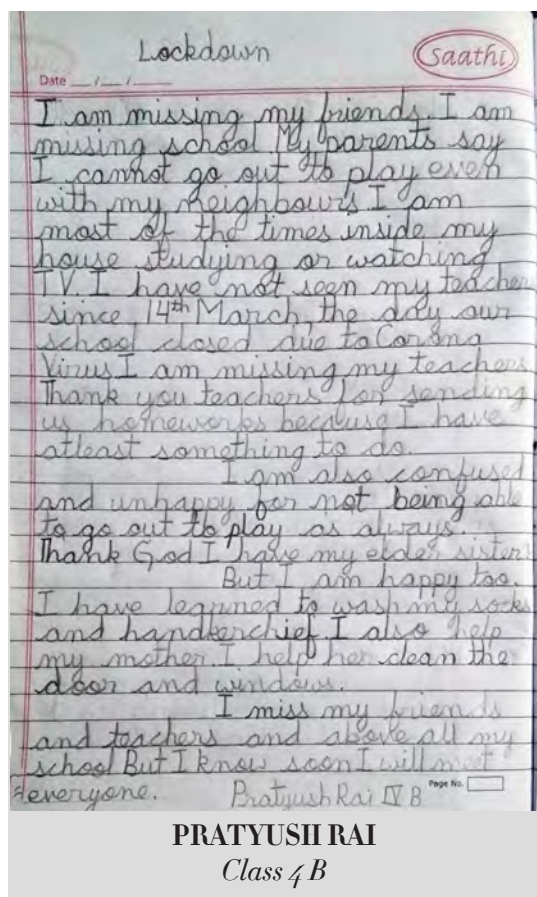
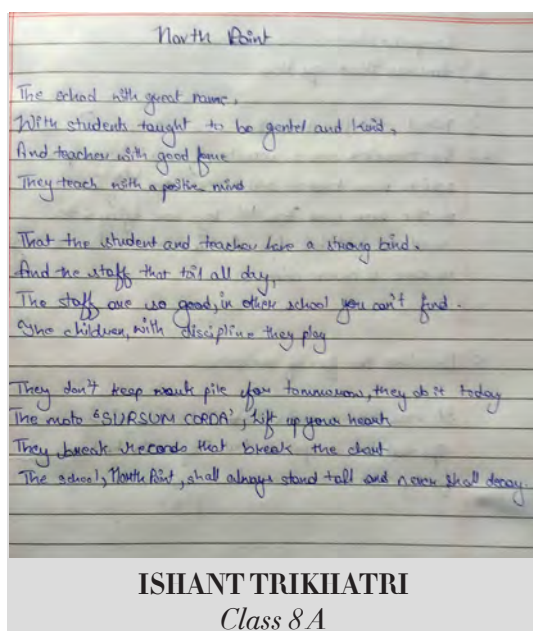
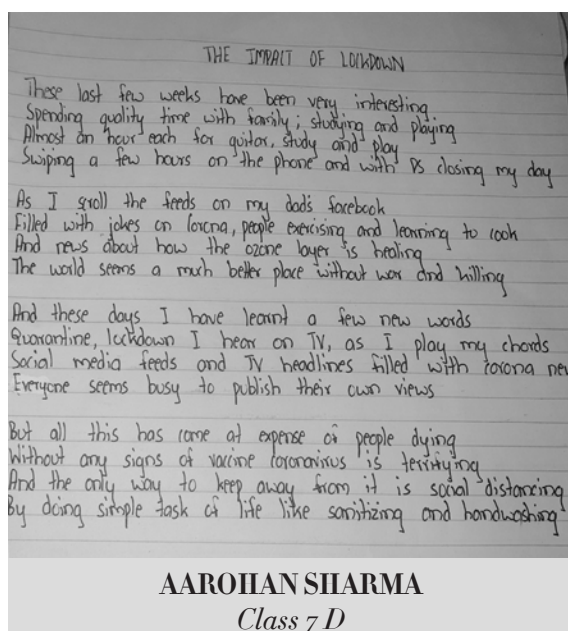
1. **‘SEA OF POPPIES’ - Amitav Ghosh:** The novel takes place shortly before the First Opium War, and its major themes are of imperialism and colonialism under a backdrop of drug smuggling and human trafficking by the hands of the British in India.
2. **‘WINGS OF FIRE’ - A.P.J. Abdul Kalam:** Kalam examines his early life, effort, hardship, fortitude, luck and chance that eventually led him to lead Indian space research, nuclear and missile programs.
3. **‘THE SHADOW LINES’ - Amitav Ghosh:** While in London in the early 1980s, the unnamed narrator recounts a series of stories and memories to his cousin Ila and his uncle Robi. As a young girl, Tha'mma's father and her uncle, Jethamoshai, begin feuding, so they split their huge communal house in half with a wall.
4. **‘OROONOKO’ - Aphra Behn:** Behn tells the tale of the African Prince Oroonoko, who falls in love with a young girl named Imoinda. This prince has been educated in Europe and holds a great reputation with his people. The beautiful Imoinda is stolen from Oroonoko by his aging grandfather, the present king.
5. **‘PRIDE AND PREJUDICE’ - Jane Austen:** Austen explores the dependence of women on marriage in the pursuit of favourable social standing and economic security.
6. **‘SAMSKARA’ - U R Ananthamurthy:** Naranappa, a man born in the community of Madhwa is dead in the Agrahara of the village

- Durvasapura. As per the Madhwa customs, the last rites of the dead man have to be performed at the earliest. But, Naranappa was a rebel who fought against Brahminism, who ate meat, consumed liquor and also, married a Dasi. Pranesacharya, the head of the Agrahara, a devout and learned Brahmin, is tasked with providing the solution.
7. **‘A RAISIN IN THE SUN’ - Lorraine Hansberry:** The Youngers are a poor African-American family living on the South Side of Chicago. An opportunity to escape from poverty comes in the form of a \$10,000 life insurance check that the matriarch of the family (Lena Younger or Mama) receives upon her husband's death.
  8. **‘OLIVER TWIST’ - Charles Dickens:** The novel was the first of the author's works to realistically depict the impoverished London underworld and to illustrate his belief that poverty leads to crime.
  9. **‘A PILGRIMAGE’ - James Martin SJ:** A Pilgrimage is both an introduction to and an account of one's pursuit of the grace of knowing Jesus Christ more intimately in order to conform one's life to the manifestation of divine love that is the human life of Christ.
  10. **‘THE JESUIT GUIDE TO (ALMOST) EVERYTHING’ - James Martin SJ:** It is a practical spiritual guidebook based on the life and teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola. It shows us how to manage relationships, money, work, prayer, and decision-making, all while keeping a sense of humour.





# Creative NP





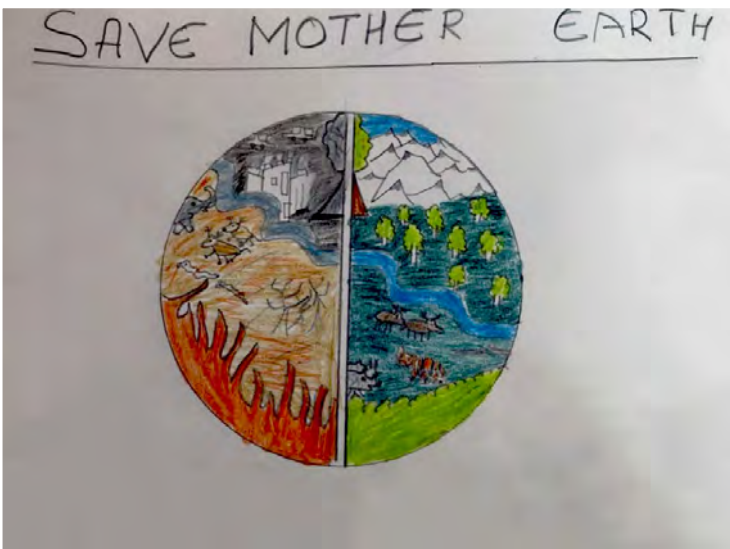
# Art Competition Winners!

CLASS 6 THEME

## Mother Earth



HANGSEWA RAI  
CLASS 6 B



SESEHANG NEMBANG  
CLASS 6 B

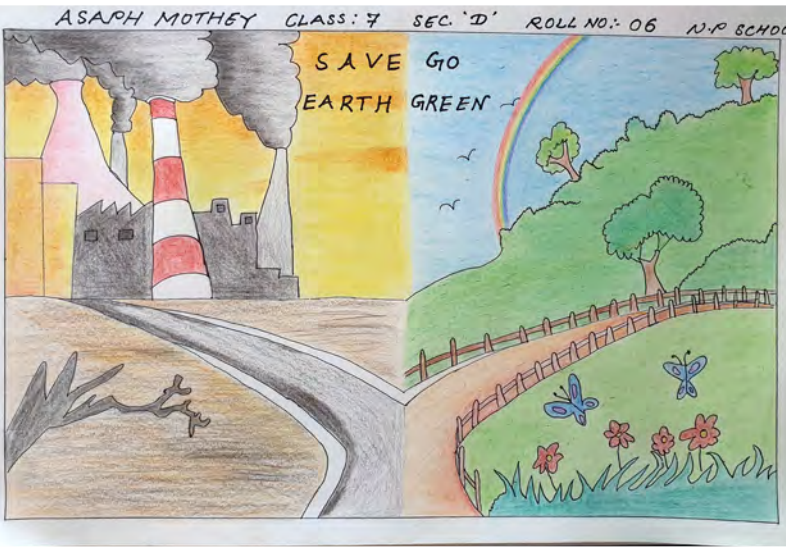


YOUNDEN TAMANG  
CLASS 6 D

## CLASS 7 THEME SAVE TREES GO GREEN



SHARIA ALAM  
CLASS 7 A



ASAPH MOTHEY  
CLASS 7 D



SARANSH KUMAR  
CLASS 7 A



CLASS 8 THEME

## SWACHH BHARAT



CHEWANG TAMANG  
CLASS 8 A



SHAURYA SUBBA  
CLASS 8 B



SARTHAK SHAHI  
CLASS 8 C

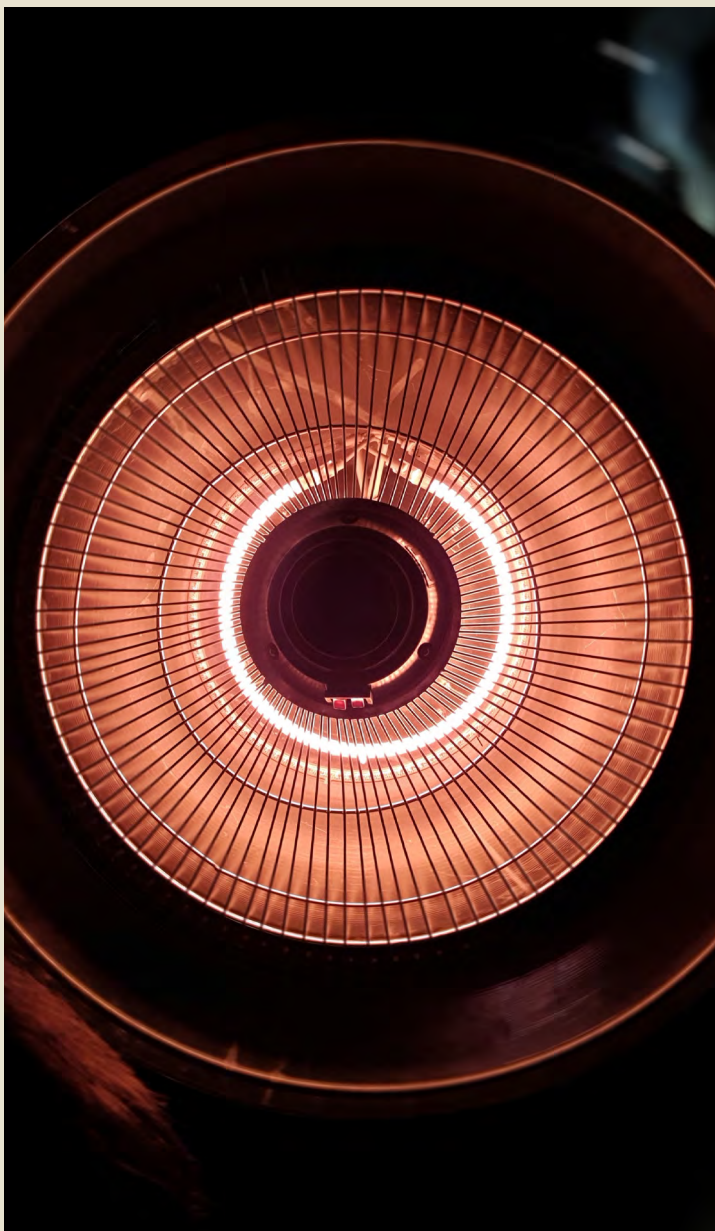
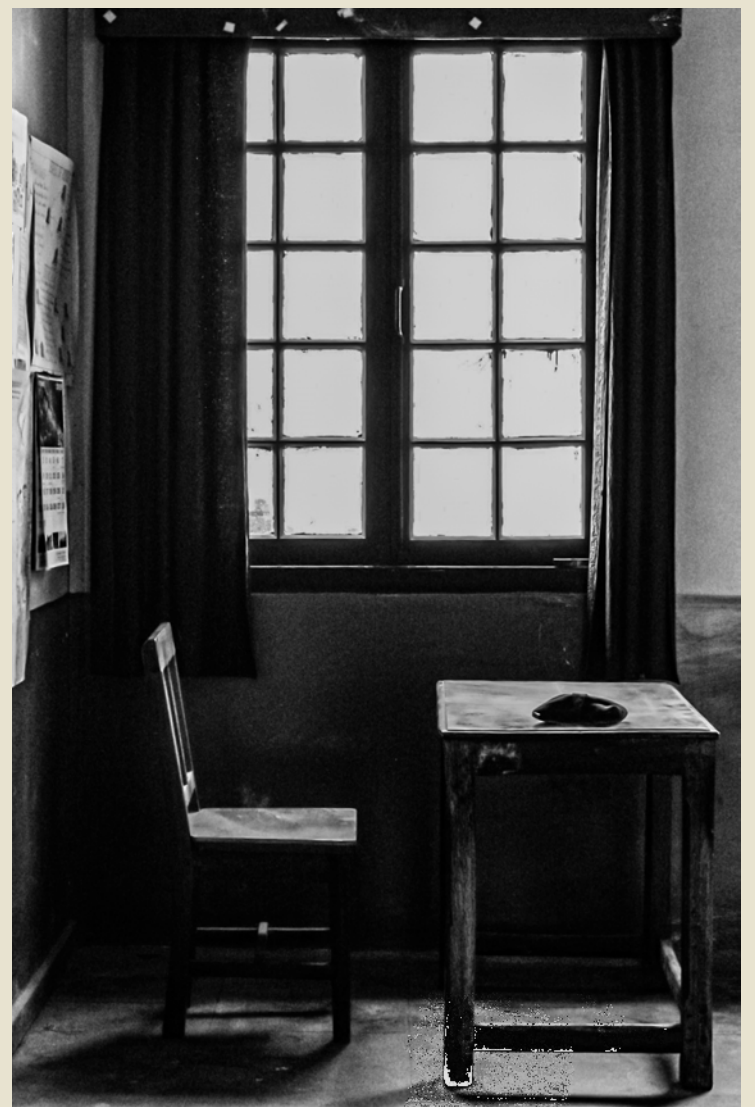


HRISHIKESH RAI | I.S.C. 2020



# PICTURESQUE

NEHAL SYANGDEN | I.S.C. 2020



MAHIN E ALAM | I.S.C. 2020



ARYA BHANDARI | CLASS 12 ARTS



TANAPHAT CHOTIJIRAPHANI | CLASS 10 B





1.  
This is a picture of rainbow that occurs at night. *What do we call this?*



2.  
This man is attributed with the invention of copy and paste. *Name him.*



3.  
Cars have been banned in this American city since 1898 (picture above). *Name the city.*



4.  
*What is the average internet speed at NASA?*



5.  
This the world longest lasting light bulb, which is been burning for more than 100 years. *What is it called?*



*compiled by Mr Mohammed Yusuf*  
*We present to you a set of thrilling questions to rattle your brains and awaken the curious in you. Answers will be given in the next issue*  
*Happy quizzing!*



6.  
The students of this institution are wearing the same uniform since 1556. *Name the institution.*



7.  
This is a kit from '1800's. *What was it known as?*



8.  
*Name this building.*



9.  
This statue located is 18 feet underwater. *In which country will you find this?*



10.  
*Can you identify this city?*

## Editors

### CHIEF EDITORS

*Mahin E Alam and Hrishikesh Rai*

### TEAM MEMBERS

*Awanish Gazmer, Tshering Norbu Bhutia and Tenzing Gyacho Lama*

### FACULTY ADVISORS

*Mr Sajid Ahmed, Mr Noel Rai, Mr Mohammed Yusuf and Mr Ashes Chettri*

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

