



## Principal's Note

**MOSAIC** (Noun/Adjective)

**Origin:** Late Middle

English; based on the Latin museum 'decoration with small square stones'.

We live in a Mosaic world - in bits and pieces, in fragments, in

scattered parts, all conjoined to create the beautiful picture called life. The beauty of it lies in the fragmentary deposition separated by boundaries of continents, countries, languages and cultures. So is school, a miniature mosaic world - where every individual contributes the best hues - like the vibrant colours used in mosaic artwork in the likes of The Park Guell in Barcelona, Spain, designed by Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi, known for its vibrance and bold colours exhibiting the vision and the talent of Gaudi.

Like the Park is made of pieces of ceramic tiles and glass, a school is a conglomeration of individuals, hailing from sundry backgrounds - so in life is the heterogeneity of occurrences and exigencies - a blend that completes the essence of life and the ways to squeeze a way through.

The philosophy behind is the holistic system of thought and action - the prospect of opportunity that it brings amidst an existing paraphernalia, of minds and resources, of intellect and the acumens, and of humans and the gambles.

An educational set-up is like a canvas that offers this mosaic to the young formative minds ready to mingle into the bigger ocean - the world brimming with restless but intellectually rich minds willing to discover breakthrough trails and laissez-faire.

An extension of society and a miniature world, the school joins hands with the enlightened individuals who send their children to be a part of the human race of yore that has in due course led the world to new highs.

We aim at creating a similar mosaic of minds that, though scattered, generates ideal humans with fertile brains to prove their worth to the world and complete the bigger picture - we provide extensive opportunities and experiences to young minds so they excavate the otherwise buried flairs to the surface and brillianteer them - the mosaic finally takes shape.

- Ashish Agarwal



## MOSAIC:

# EMBLEM OF FLAWLESS IMPERFECTIONS

We have always been very fond of the concept of imperfections. What is a vacation without hard work and without the fear of the inevitable? We hope to strike a balance and become whistleblowers for a perfect utopia. But even beyond the yin and yang, it is asymmetry that we crave. Crooked branches and the eerie glow of bioluminescence - that is what Mother Nature has taught us. I would go as far as to say that we even require flaws. We need to dissipate some heat from our well-oiled machines and need cracks in our pavement to foster saplings. It is imperfections that allow us to possess the reins of this world.

This longing for irregularities has roots in more than just mundane tasks. We desire it in art, literature, and our perception of beauty. Faults allow us to identify human touch and are a symbol of our mortality. We create, grow, advance, and leave. It is a vicious cycle, but one to which we have grown quite attached. As we look back in history, we look at artists who have reached a certain level of greatness that is hard to compete with but, at the same time, not meant to be compared to each other because neither can come on top to reign over a certain genre.

This sentiment has been promoted by mosaics since the 1700s. Started due to speculative reasons such as manual crafting processes and limited availability of material, it has transitioned into a well-known art form used worldwide. May it be an abstract mosaic with countless possibilities for the arrangement of its components, or a meaningful one with cracks and rifts. With their transient, mortal essence, they reflect the fickle and disorderly nature of our lives. They normalise the lack of uniformity and highlight the individuality of every element. Every element has its own set of characteristics - a different shape, size, and colour - to be observed and admired.

They intentionally stray from perfect symmetry and strict geometric patterns, prompting us to question accepted norms and treasure the unusual. In the presence of exceptional work performed with precise strokes and handled with caution, their distinctive appearance sets them apart. They also adopt negative spaces in the form of deliberate gaps or areas without tesserae to allow us to contemplate and appreciate what is not there. In regions devoid of any content, we find solace in



the emptiness and beauty of barren slits.

With irregular edges and uneven surfaces, mosaics tell an unfinished story that continues decades after their creation. Such anomalies accentuate the significance of the journey rather than the destination. This teaches us to not only value the voyage but also to cherish the incomplete. Once we have redirected our attention away from our endless efforts to reach our outcome, it is blissful to live in the moment and relish all the aspects that constitute the present.

It is the most remarkable trait of humanity. In possession of the reins of the world, we also bear the power to change what certain things mean to us. With this ability, we wake up one fateful morning and wish for acceptance, to love the fresh cuts and faded scars. Wish for healing without feigning indifference to the fact that it might have altered our life, irrespective of its impermanence. We adjust and adapt until eternity takes us away.

- Saarah Jose (11A)

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## Editor's Note

Mosaics are an artist's paradise. They encapsulate so much within their crevices that you are lost in the art before your gaze even reaches the stained glass. Their seams provide refuge for a myriad of metaphors and analogies. They bring into existence poems about light penetrating the fanlight above the front door and the view of a kaleidoscope by the entrance. They bring into existence stories about love and lineage, the kind that portrays us as a mixing pot of our cultures and choices, our heritage, and our dreams. Mosaics vary in definition based on our perception of them. They can simply be a pattern created with pieces of coloured stone or a technique of creating art preserved through generations. But most of all, it is a form of artwork that exudes individuality. Independent elements of

glass or stone, bearing simplistic beauty in their variations of colours and shapes, come together to form art that surpasses their former capabilities.

Our self-expression is largely a product of our imagination, but we as individuals cannot help but be influenced by our surroundings. The art we make is a mosaic of every piece of art we have ever witnessed acting as tiles in our work. This not only applies to art but also to multiple facets of our lives. Our personalities, for example, have broken pieces of everyone around us, from our taste in music to our refined palates that are configured by various recommendations.

I hope that by the end of this newsletter, we will share a similar appreciation for mosaics. Enjoy!

- Devyani Sadho, Editor-in-Chief

Theme: **MOSAIC**



## Annual Concert

# MERAKI

A DISPLAY OF PASSION

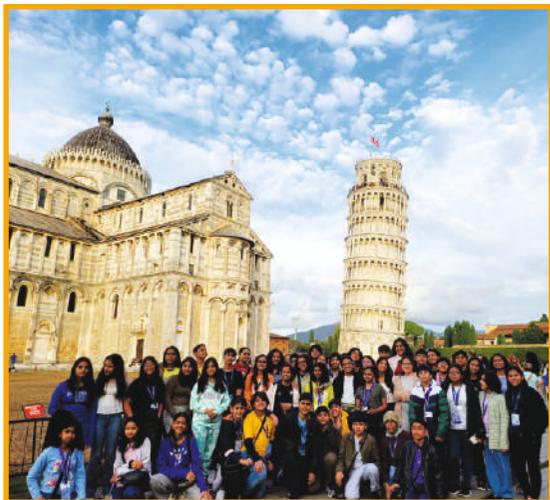
The Annual Event 2023 was a glorious success. From theatre to skating, every student found a place where they belonged, and then they shone like diamonds on the stage or the stadium. Every student was brimming with anticipation for the day, which was filled with excitement. In keeping with the theme of Meraki, the participants stored a piece of their hearts in their art, which was then showcased with pride to their parents.





# EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO EUROPE

Embarking on an Educational Trip to Europe, Billabongers explored iconic landmarks ranging from the Eiffel Tower in France to the CERN facilities in Switzerland. Informative visits to the Pisa and Colosseum in Italy, the Mona Lisa at the Louvre, in France, and witnessing the debates at the UN office, in Geneva enriched their educational experience. This memorable journey, replete with captivating sights and unparalleled views, resonates dearly in the hearts of these young travellers.

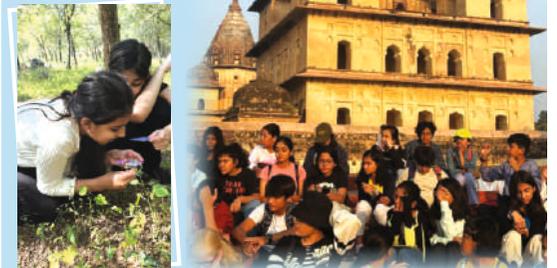


# Diplomathon 2023

The Diplomathon 2023, hosted by our school, was an incredible educational journey for our young diplomats. For two days, these curious diplomats learned powerful ways of forming alliances and swaying the crowd with their voices presenting their ideas and views to appeal to their fellow delegates. By the end of this momentous event, every participant walked away having learned the art of diplomacy and, with it, new-found knowledge about the world and its nations.



# ORCHHA TRIP



The Orchha trip provided an opportunity for our students to create precious and invaluable memories as they marvelled at the rich and diverse cultural history of its magnificent fort and multiple temples. These, alongside Orchha's natural scenic beauty, were the backdrop to the unique moments that shall be forever cherished by these students.





## Is the 'Bletchley Declaration' sufficient to guarantee the safe and responsible development and deployment of 'Digital Super Intelligence' globally?



Image credit: hayo.com

We stand at the apex of an eon where digital superintelligence promises unrivalled feats and possibilities for society. The advent of artificial intelligence has paved the way for a revolution that will reshape every aspect of our lives. The 'Bletchley Declaration' signifies such a critical step forward in this journey, outlining principles and guidelines aimed at fostering an environment where innovation harmonises with ethical considerations.

On November 1 and 2, 2023, 28 countries, along with the European Union, France, Japan, and India, attended the world's first AI Safety Summit in the historically resonant setting of Bletchley Park. The Bletchley Declaration is the first AI safety and regulation pact to ever be framed. This declaration indicates that the "delineation, development, deployment, and use of AI should be performed in a manner that is human-centric." It constituted the genesis of extended international cooperation on AI safety, with the next summit already planned for 2024 in France.

Kupinger Cole-Cyberrevolution calls this declaration 'The Imitation Game of a Different Kind'. Being the first-ever pact of its kind, this declaration answers all the questions and risks that countries around the world are trying to face head-on. Most powers around the world decided on a relevant initiative to promote the safe use of AI and the basic purpose of this international forum-to guarantee the safe development and deployment of 'Digital Super Intelligence' globally.

Rishi Sunak, the Indian-origin British Prime Minister, called this declaration "a landmark achievement... helping ensure the long-term future of our children and grandchildren." Keeping with the Prime Minister's expression of AI, during the summit, the signatories to the Bletchley Declaration agreed that it is important to consider "a pro-innovation and proportionate governance and regulatory approach" that achieves the balance between AI benefits and risks. In addition to the fact that the Bletchley Declaration ensures the safety and security of and from AI, it also clinches on more scientific research on frontier AI. The signatories to this declaration not only concurred on the significance of extensions in technology and AI but also highlighted the concerns that this advancement might bring, which are all addressed in this memorandum.

In a video message played during the summit, King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland described AI as "one of the greatest technological leaps in the history of human endeavor." The King further added, "That is how the international community has sought to tackle climate change, light a path to net zero, and safeguard the future of our planet. We must similarly address the risks presented by AI with a sense of urgency, unity, and collective strength." Aside from the King, Elon Reeve Musk, who also attended the AI Safety Summit, said in an interview on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, that the UK wants to establish a 'third party referee' with the Bletchley Declaration that could oversee companies developing artificial intelligence and sound the alarm if they have concerns. This ably answers the question of the relevance of the Bletchley Declaration.

The Bletchley Declaration serves as a valuable asset for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders in navigating the convolutions of AI while also promoting responsible and ethical development in this rapidly expanding technological landscape. To conclude, yes, the 'Bletchley Declaration' is sufficient to guarantee the safe and responsible development and deployment of 'Digital Super Intelligence' globally.

**YES** **NO**



- Mariya Husain (9B)

The Bletchley Declaration is a set of ethical principles aimed at guiding the development and deployment of Digital Super Intelligence (DSI) globally. It was drafted by a group of eminent experts in the field of artificial intelligence and was unveiled at the Bletchley Park Institute for the Study of AI. The declaration seeks to address the potential risks and challenges associated with the development of DSI while maximising its potential benefits. However, it is not sufficient to guarantee the safe and responsible development and deployment of DSI globally for the following reasons:

Firstly, the Bletchley Declaration is not legally binding. It is a voluntary agreement that relies on cooperation and voluntary compliance from all stakeholders involved in the development and deployment of DSI. This means that there is no legal support or enforcement mechanism in place to hold individuals or organisations accountable if they violate the principles outlined in the declaration. In today's highly competitive market, some companies may prioritise their own interests and goals over ethical considerations, which could lead to the development and deployment of DSI with potential risks and consequences.

Secondly, the Bletchley Declaration is limited in its scope. It mainly focuses on the ethical principles for the development and deployment of DSI, such as transparency, safety, and accountability. While these are crucial aspects, the declaration fails to address broader issues such as the economic, political, and social implications of DSI. For example, the widespread adoption of DSI could have a significant impact on employment opportunities, inequality, and power dynamics between different countries and societies. Without addressing these issues, the Bletchley Declaration may not be sufficient to ensure the responsible development and deployment of DSI globally.

Thirdly, the Bletchley Declaration lacks a clear mechanism for implementation and oversight. While the declaration suggests the creation of an independent oversight body, there is no concrete plan for its establishment or how it will function. It is essential to have a robust oversight mechanism in place to monitor the development and deployment of DSI and ensure compliance with ethical principles. Without such a mechanism, the effectiveness of the declaration in promoting responsible development and deployment of DSI may be limited.

Furthermore, the Bletchley Declaration does not account for the rapidly evolving nature of DSI. As technology advances and new capabilities emerge, ethical considerations surrounding DSI may also evolve. This means that the declaration may become outdated and ineffective in addressing emerging ethical challenges. The safe and responsible development of DSI globally should be through a continuous and dynamic process of evaluating and updating ethical principles.

Finally, the Bletchley Declaration lacks a framework for international cooperation and coordination. DSI is a global phenomenon, and its development and deployment have significant implications for all countries. However, the declaration does not provide a roadmap for international cooperation and coordination based on ethical principles. This could lead to divergent approaches and standards in different countries, which may undermine the effectiveness of the declaration in promoting responsible development and deployment of DSI globally.

In conclusion, while the Bletchley Declaration provides a foundation for ethical considerations in DSI development, it is not a standalone solution. A holistic approach involving dynamic regulatory frameworks, ongoing ethical considerations, transparency, accountability, and global collaboration is necessary to address the multifaceted challenges posed by Digital Super Intelligence. The declaration serves as a starting point, but sustained efforts are required to navigate the complex landscape of DSI responsibly.

- Aditi Sanghi (9C)





# Bits of Beauty

A mosaic is partible or separate units combined to form a consistent whole. Mosaic art is commonly understood as a pictorial discipline. However, it has a very particular methodology. Mosaic is a language on its own. It has a distinct formal grammar of fragmentation. The pieces fit together perfectly with modulation and repetition. The characteristics of this beautiful creative art prevail upon us to ponder if it is just a method of art or something more.

Mosaic, like its very characteristic feature, contains pieces of history. In the late 19th century, mosaic principles manifested into another technique known as pointillism. John Gage suggests that mosaic works triggered the studies of optics carried out by Ptolemy in ancient Alexandria. Mosaic patterns are at all spatial scales, from sub-microscopic to the planet and universe. From an aeroplane, the land almost always appears as a mosaic; the buildings, shrubs, trees, and roads are like tiny pieces coming together. In the present, a digital picture is nothing but a mosaic of pixels that compose it.

The idea of a mosaic exists even where we fail to put it. Have you ever wondered why a bouquet of different flowers is more pleasing than a bundle of similar ones? Why do distinct elements on our plate seem tastier than a single component? Or why do we like to see a

forest with a combination of plants rather than a farm with a single crop? Different bits of dissimilar things come together and make a stunning whole. I am sure you will agree that variety is pleasing and captivating. Technically, our lives and even our personalities are also like

mosaics. We are like fragments of experiences, learning, and memories that fit together like a mosaic and shape our personalities. As Anita Krizzan puts it even better, "We are mosaics. Pieces of light, love, history, and stars-glued together with magic, music, and words."

If we look at the most successful and popular nations, they are all like mosaics of people belonging to different cultures and even nationalities. 61.1% of the U.S. population comes from non-ethnic groups. 88.4% of the population of the UAE comes from different cultures. Each individual in the artwork of a country brings a unique piece and contributes to a distinct beauty. India has about 27% immigrants. Moreover, we are a blend of diversity within ourselves. People from different regions bring different cultures and have unique contributions to our greatness.

To conclude, the principle of mosaic is everywhere and enriches everything it becomes a part of. Our being, our glory, and the world around us are proof. It has been rightly quoted, "When the world starts falling apart, pick up the pieces and create a beautiful mosaic."

- Kanishka Paltani (10B)



## Life as a Mosaic

"The smallest of moments can have a big impact."

This quote reflects the beauty of experiences and how every change and step one takes can transform something completely. Similarly, compiling small moments, acknowledging them, remembering them, and then putting them together can form a beautiful frame of artwork.

Life is a mosaic. It is an image comprising thousands of smaller coloured tiles that complete it. Every choice you make is a little tile in the mosaic. One cannot be perfect, but one can move towards it with every course correction. However, the more poor choices are made, the more the tiles get messed up. The more distorted the picture gets, a churn emerges, lacking clarity and enlightenment.

Our lives are made up of many different moments



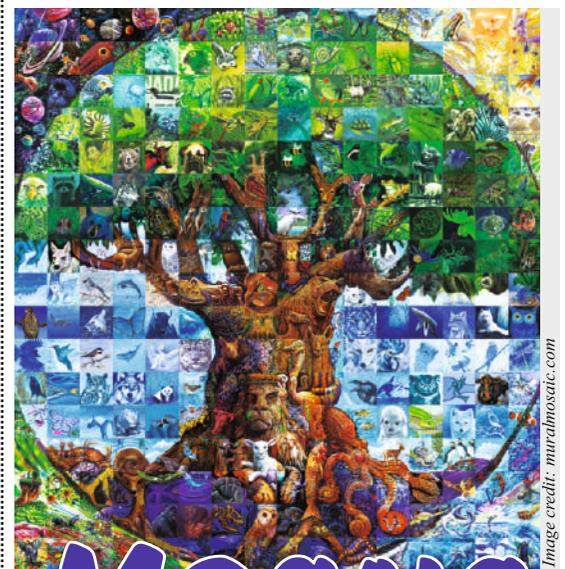
and experiences that add beauty, meaning, and richness to them. Even though some experiences can be seen as insignificant, they can have a big impact on the final result.

Mosaic is often known for the overall design each tile contributes to. Each tile is different, but when they are put together, they create something more than the sum of its parts. In our lives, mosaics can help us see a broken piece that ends up being a part of something beautiful. Every moment is a chance to create something

astonishing, which includes both fun moments and negative experiences. One can change their mosaic by removing or adding a "tile" from their picture.

So, how would you like your mosaic to look?

- Naysha Agrawal (7C)



## MOSAIC

Mosaic is a type of art that is made up of many broken pieces to make one singular artwork.

Life is like a mosaic; it shows your successes and failures combined to make your life. All the challenges you face help you build your destiny. Life is made up of pieces of joy, excitement, happiness, and sorrowful moments that combine to make our lives complete and beautiful. Some small moments in life may seem unimportant or unnecessary but can create a big impact in life, just like a broken piece that can end up being a part of something beautiful. Everyone has different mosaics, and everyone has a different life, just as every mosaic is not the same. We can also use this idea to recall that every experience is a chance to construct something out of the ordinary. Take some time from your life and think about the experiences, relationships, and choices that make up your mosaic. And just like a mosaic artist, we select our tiles to create the perfect one for our lives.

- Mohammad Araish (5D)



# The World of Mosaic



Image credit: mosaicshydesign.com.au

In a world of fragments, a world of art,  
A masterpiece emerges, a work of the heart.  
A mosaic of colours, a tapestry of hues,  
A tale of beauty, a story anew.

With each piece unique, with each tile so grand,  
The artist weaves a narrative, so divine.  
A kaleidoscope of images, a symphony of sound,  
A world of wonder, all around.

The mosaic unfolds, a story so bright,  
A testament to the human spirit, a beacon of light.  
With every fragment, a piece of the whole,  
A masterpiece of love, a work of the soul.

In this world of mosaic, we find our place,  
A world of beauty, a world of grace.  
So let us cherish, this work of art,  
A mosaic of love, a heart that beats from the start.

- Bhoumik Patel (7E)

# Fragments Pieced Together

In the immense gallery of existence, a mosaic is revealed,  
An intricate weave of stories in shades undisclosed.  
From shattered fragments arises a captivating grace,  
A flurry of dreams, a kaleidoscope's embrace.  
Colors blend, producing a dance of light,  
In the mosaic of time, narratives unite.  
Whispers of joy, rendered in a golden hue,  
Sorrows in blue, stories concealed from view.  
Minute moments, like tiles, find their place,  
Within life's pattern is a heartfelt embrace.  
Some tiles shine brightly, others appear dim,  
Yet every piece is a valuable hymn.  
Adding to the richness, profundity, and elegance,  
In life's mosaic, each soul discovers its significance.  
We worked together to assemble this creation,  
A symphony composed from every sensation.  
Diversity is embraced, unity smoothly woven,  
Within the grand mosaic, aspirations are chosen.  
For within this magnum opus, as stories unfold,  
We discover the allure of an untold mosaic world.



- Aarna Tiwari (9A)

# MOSAIC OF BELOVEDS

Our life is a canvas where art finds its place,  
Our family and friends form a mosaic of grace,  
Bringing happiness and filling hearts with delight,  
Our memories of love forever shine bright.

Each friend is a piece, unique and true,  
And when we are together, there's nothing we can't do.  
Together in this beautiful mosaic, we laugh and play, side by side,  
This kindness is where our friendship resides.

In this Mosaic forever we will be,  
A perfect team, you and me, you see,  
Together, we create a masterpiece,  
Bound by love and friendship never cease.

- Raima Arora (2E)



# A Mosaic of Life

In colors and shapes,  
We find our place,  
A mosaic of life,  
A wondrous embrace.  
Each piece unique,  
A story to tell,  
Together we form a tapestry,  
Oh, so well!



From corners of this world  
we hail,  
Different backgrounds,  
But still we prevail.  
A symphony of pieces,  
A melodious song,  
In unity we all, truly belong.

In hues and textures,  
Secrets unfold,  
A trail of moments,  
Rich and bold.  
In every piece,  
A story told,  
Mosaics shimmer, ageless though old.

- Navya Chinchkhedkar (5E)

# Mosaic Dreams Unveiled

Mosaic Dreams Unveiled  
In halls of art, where colours dance,  
A tale unfolds, a vibrant chance;  
Mosaics bright, a puzzle grand,  
Grade 6 hands, create the strand.

Livvy's dream, setting the theme;  
Tiles like stories fit in place,  
Mosaics bloom with flamboyant  
grace.

Piece by piece, they build with care,  
A masterpiece beyond compare;  
Mosaics tell chronicles, both old and  
young,  
In Edaline's heart, creativity sprung.  
In art class bright, where colours  
gleam,

Hands at work, each piece in place,  
A vibrant world, a student's grace.  
Solidarity's magic, art untold,  
Mosaics shimmer, hearts consoled.

- Anamitraa Neeraj Choubey (6C)

# Weaving the mosaic of life

Just like winter always turns into spring,  
You will rise and get on the field again.  
When you get drifted away,  
Far away from the shore,  
Having no way to escape,  
No way to save yourself from the crashing tides,  
Just remember, that's when all your hope hides;  
Beneath the stormy, thunderous skies,  
Lies a new tomorrow with journeys,  
Far better than you expected.  
Life is an empty canvas waiting to be filled,  
It has its cracks, curves and moments that hurt.  
Just like a mosaic made up of broken  
imperfections,  
That has tons to express without any actions.  
Perseverance and determination are the keys,  
To fill the platter of your life with all your  
dreams;  
By placing the pieces one by one,  
And weaving the beautiful artwork of life!



- Aarushi Bhagat (8F)

Image credit: pinterest.com/Michelle Mendoza

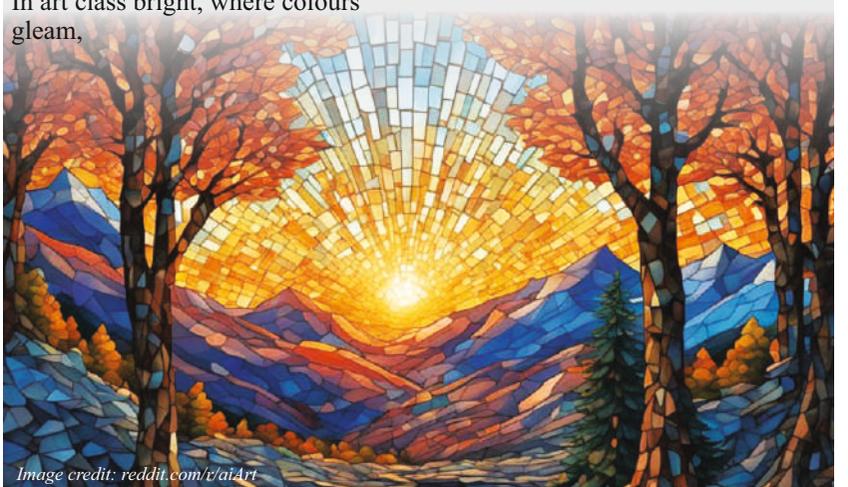


Image credit: reddit.com/u/aiArt



# Mosaic Incredible

11-year-old Mike lived in Mumbai. He led a fantastic life, yet one thing left a gaping hole in his heart: a wish to create an artistic masterpiece. He woke up each day to the chirping of the birds and the sun tearing the sky with its blinding orange light. This particular day, Mike felt an unsettling sense of forgetting something, it was like when you know you have lost something but don't know what it is. Jumping out of his bed, he strolled over to the sink. As he applied toothpaste to his brush, a bullet of memory shot into his mind.

It was his father's birthday, and he did not have a gift! He darted into his room and dropped down on his knees beside his drawer. With the toothbrush in his mouth, he rummaged through his art supplies. Paint? Glass Shards? Straws? "Wait," Mike thought. "Rewind a little." Colourful glass shards! Perfect! He could make a picture of his father with them! He skipped to the sink, snatched the toothbrush from his mouth, and kept it back.

A few minutes later, Mike was

shovelling the jam and butter sandwich into his mouth. Once

breakfast was taken care of, he exploded back into his room and went online searching for 'Glass shard painting examples.' "Did you mean mosaic art? About 19,90,00,000 results (0.64 seconds)" came the swift reply from Google, and below that, beautiful pictures of just what Mike was looking for.

Inspired, he got to work immediately, arranging the glass shards into what looked like his father and him high-fiving. In the evening, he showed the masterpiece to his father, who was overjoyed. After admiring Mike's art for a few seconds, his father said, "Mosaic Incredible." He then suggested, "Maybe you should apply for the National Art Exhibition."

"Really?" asked Mike as he walked into his room. Excitedly, he went

online again and searched for "National Art Exhibition." He looked up the first

registration tab. It was a wondrous page. A sky blue and pink outline surrounded a big button covered in vibrant colours of the rainbow. In the middle, in white, it said 'register'.

Alright, now you might be wondering why such a randomised website with a big colourful button in the middle does not seem very inappropriate. That was because a line above it said "CISCE National Colours."

Mike immediately clicked the registration button and then filled in the details. Almost instantly, he received the message that said "Your registration was successful."

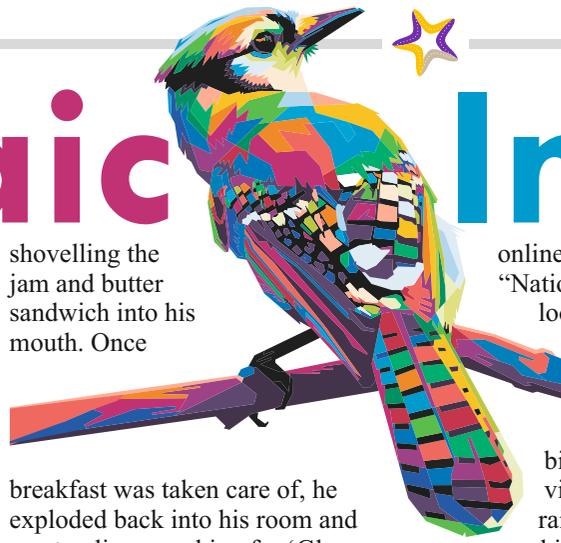
Two months later:

He woke up with a start that day to the familiar chirping of the birds. He felt cold. Suddenly, he froze. It was the day of the art exhibition, and he

was not prepared yet! He decided to take the risk and looked around. He leapt out of bed and rushed to the sink. After he was done refreshing, he scampered into his room, past the blinding orange light of the sun. Scanning through his art supplies, he once again found the glass shards. He hurriedly started to arrange the glass shards into a bird's-eye picture.

After he was done, Mike got ready just as his mother called from below, "Milk is ready, Mike! It's the exhibition today!" "Coming, mom!" replied Mike as he rushed downstairs. The day went well. In the end, when they were ready to announce the results, the host said, "We are proud to announce the 2nd runner-up, Mr. John Reveir; the 1st runner-up, Miss Sammy Robert; and the champion of the CISCE National Colours, Mr. Mike Remer! A round of applause went around the crowd as Mike's eyes swelled up with tears of joy. Truly, "Mosaic Incredible!"

- Ravit Shroti (6C)



## The Mosaic of the Mind

As I walked into that quiet, deserted café, I didn't quite anticipate the loud, erratic chaos I would feel walking out.

I sat down on the same leather chair, sunny in colour but withering from constant use. It even had a little cuff mark where I would pick at it with my nails. I sipped my coffee, impatiently waiting for the caffeine to hit me like a cold shower. Soon, I heard a creak from the opening door. A gasp followed. "Oh gosh, it's you!" I heard it from afar. "I know that voice," I thought. Something about the rasp as she spoke felt... familiar. I turned to look to determine who it was, only to find one of my oldest friends, Gauri, smiling back at me. "No way!" I exclaimed. "It's been so long; how are you?" she asked as she sat beside me, ecstatic.

Just then, everything stopped abruptly. There was no sound in the world. Every particle and speck of dust paused in its place. White ribbons flocked over the shop, waving wildly. Gauri's face morphed into the background, and I looked down at my coffee, only to see chocolate curls tightly wrapping around me. The surroundings faded into a white canvas that soon took on a black hue as I recalled her words, 'How are you?'

Gradually, all I could hear was faint piccolos humming in the distance-a

soft folk song. Violins and violas followed swiftly after, playing ever so gently that I could hear the bows shifting. Then, a fast and high-pitched flute followed, rhythmically dancing across each note, clicking like the heels of a tap dancer. It led me into the smooth trill of a clarinet,



followed by the blues of a trombone. I began to enjoy myself, only to hear the violins creeping back in with the fanfare of an orchestra. But the beauty soon frightened me, as the cellos played harsher and harsher, the strings almost tearing apart from the friction.

And when I thought I could no longer bear it, it all just stopped. But

it had only just begun.

When I felt my nerves relax and soothe, glass shards of various hues and tones hurried towards me, each accompanied by a different feeling. The yellow ochre-the crisp but comforting warmth of the sun-a crimson red-bold yet mysterious. The blissful blues that one could not distinguish themselves from-somber and melancholy or calm and serene-followed a mysterious and strange emerald green. In the end, I felt a deep, rich purple-the symbol of royalty yet certainly of fear and reluctance. The shards slowly formed a beautiful tapestry, with my emotions woven into the fabric. The beauty was indescribable yet stunning. A true work of art, a true mosaic.

Suddenly, I heard the hum of a radio playing plain white noise. I felt a mellow aroma embrace me; it was coffee. I slowly began to smell the citrus and tart orange curd and the sharp, fresh raspberries next to my puffed sugar beignets. I felt a wispy, wavering hand in front of me, and the rasp of my friend's voice blurred back in.

"Hey, are you alright?" she asked, concerned. "Yes, yes, I'm fine," I stuttered. "What were you asking?" I asked as I snapped out of it.

- Rhythm Rohani (9D)

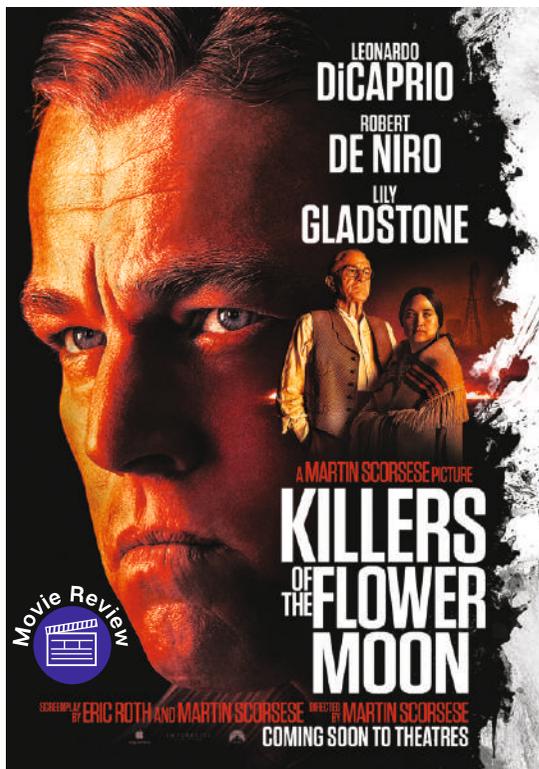


Image credit: kidsactivitiesblog.com

A long time ago, there were seven colours: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. They always fought over who was the brightest and most vibrant. "I am the best, and people love me the most," said the dominant Red. Blue became angry and said, "I am the colour of the water, and people use me the most!" "I am the colour of nature, and I am the most important," said the furious Green. They would always argue like this all day long.

One Summer day, the sun was so hot that the colours started to melt and mix up. Everyone got angry all over again. "What is happening to me? Why are all of you coming towards me?" questioned Orange. "I hate you!" exclaimed Violet. "You all are so arrogant!" They started to argue once again, but soon they realised that together they were starting to form a beautiful rainbow. Then, they began to understand that our life moves in patterns towards things, and the things that we achieve are finally part of a beautiful mosaic. After this incident, they lived happily together, having learned the value of unity, and formed a great mosaic.

- Vihaan Pamnani (4G)



# The Killers of the Flower Moon

"The Killers of the Flower Moon" is a cinematic triumph that seamlessly weaves together history, mystery, and impeccable storytelling. Directed by Martin Scorsese, the film captures the essence of David Grann's gripping non-fiction book, delivering an experience that is both haunting and thought-provoking. The film boasts an outstanding ensemble cast, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert De Niro delivering performances that are nothing short of captivating. Their on-screen chemistry elevates the narrative, making the characters come alive with depth and authenticity. Scorsese's directorial brilliance is on full display, as he masterfully navigates the complexities of the narrative. The cinematography, helmed by Rodrigo Prieto, is a

visual feast, capturing the stark beauty of the Osage Nation while maintaining an eerie atmosphere befitting the mystery at the story's core. One of the film's strengths lies in its commitment to historical accuracy. The portrayal of the Osage murders and the subsequent investigation is meticulous, shedding light on a dark chapter in American history while honouring the resilience of the Osage people. The narrative unfolds with a perfect blend of suspense and emotion, keeping the audience on the edge of their seats from start to finish. The screenplay, written by Eric Roth, skillfully balances the intricate details of the investigation with the personal stories of those affected by the crimes. The haunting musical score, composed by Robbie Robertson,

enhances the film's emotional impact. The music becomes a character in itself, heightening the tension and adding layers to the narrative. Beyond its role as a crime drama, "The Killers of the Flower Moon" serves as a poignant social commentary, exploring themes of greed, corruption, and the exploitation of marginalised communities. The film encourages reflection on the systemic issues that persist in society. In conclusion, "The Killers of the Flower Moon" is a cinematic gem that transcends its genre. With a stellar cast, impeccable direction, and a story that resonates long after the credits roll, this film earns its rightful place among the greats. A four-star masterpiece that will undoubtedly stand the test of time."

- Vaibhav Mishra (9B)



The Nutcracker and the Four Realms is a really magical movie. Full of Christmas and Magic. Featuring stunning sets and costumes and a good moral. The plot of this new adaptation of the Ballet and the Classic story that inspired it revolves around Clara, a young girl whose mother has recently passed away. On Christmas Eve she discovers, with a little help from her Godfather Drosselmeyer played by Oscar Winner Morgan Freeman, A Magical World consisting of Four Realms each ruled by a different regent. Three of the realms are good and peaceful. But one is dark and evil and ruled by the villainess Mother Ginger played by Oscar-winner Helen Mirren. This is the kind of big-budget Fantasy movie I love! The sets and costumes are colorful and intricate, the cast has big stars playing larger-than-life roles and it has a good moral about believing in yourself and grief. The movie has magic and a good midway twist. Mackenzie Foy does a good job playing the lead and among the other actors, Keira Knightley is a

standout, giving her character a unique voice and set of mannerisms. The movie also really gives you a Christmas feeling with all its snow, Christmas trees, and presents. Richard E Grant and Mexican comedy superstar Eugenio Derbez also do a good job with their roles though both are slightly underused. Misty Copeland's role is also very small and I didn't even notice Miranda Hart. Actually, I'm not even sure she was in the movie. Maybe her role has been cut from the finished film. I know there were reshoots. Speaking of shooting. The Director is a countryman, noted Swedish Director Lasse Hallström. But all the reshoots were handled by Joe Johnston (Captain America the First Avenger and Jurassic Park III). I don't know which scenes were filmed. Special shoutout must go to Two Time Oscar Nominee Guy Hendrix Dyas for his Production Design and Two Time Oscar Winner Jenny Beavan for her Costumes. It's a really good movie, I highly recommend it!

- Aarna Maheshwari (5B)

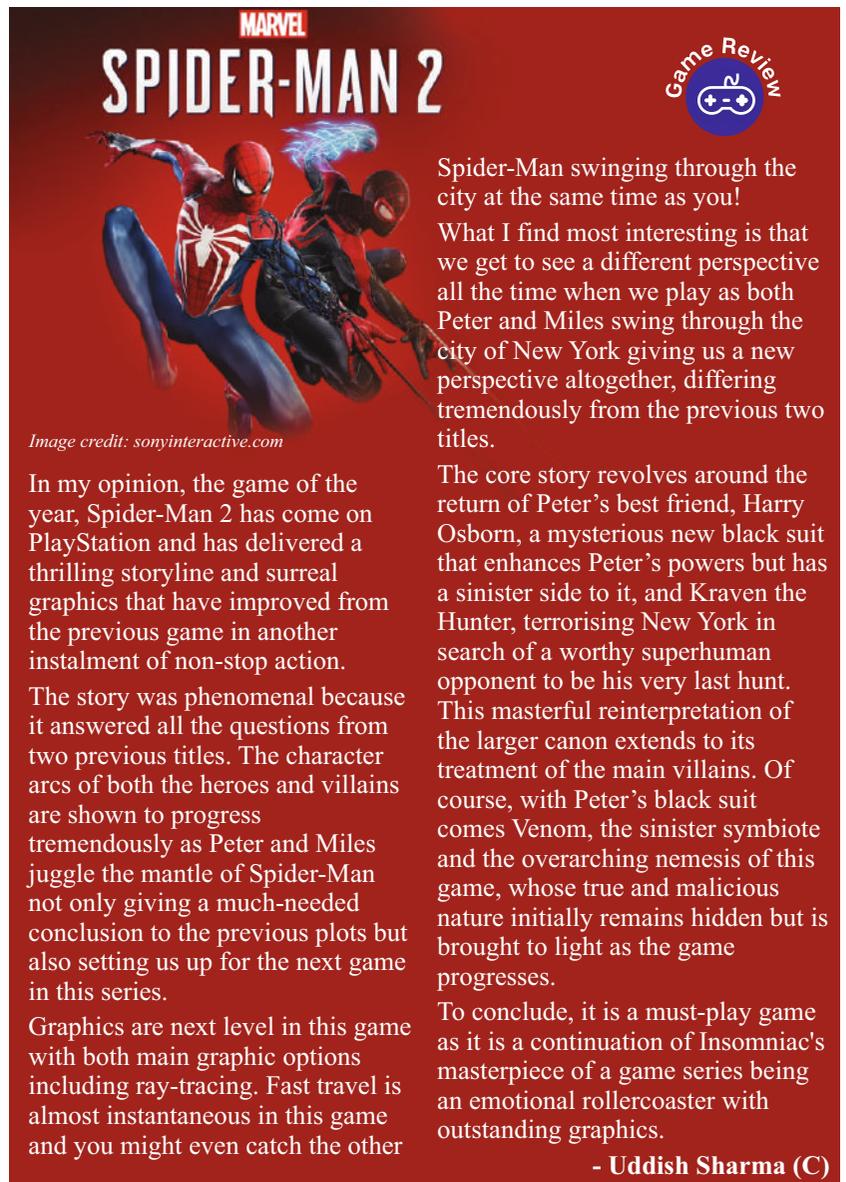


Image credit: sonyinteractive.com

In my opinion, the game of the year, Spider-Man 2 has come on PlayStation and has delivered a thrilling storyline and surreal graphics that have improved from the previous game in another instalment of non-stop action.

The story was phenomenal because it answered all the questions from two previous titles. The character arcs of both the heroes and villains are shown to progress tremendously as Peter and Miles juggle the mantle of Spider-Man not only giving a much-needed conclusion to the previous plots but also setting us up for the next game in this series.

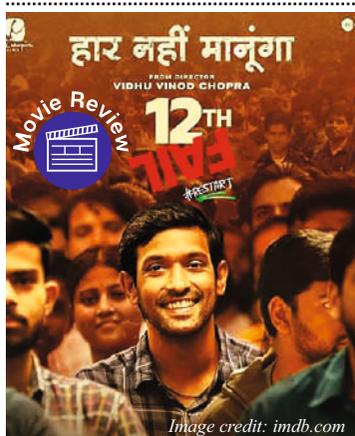
Graphics are next level in this game with both main graphic options including ray-tracing. Fast travel is almost instantaneous in this game and you might even catch the other

Spider-Man swinging through the city at the same time as you! What I find most interesting is that we get to see a different perspective all the time when we play as both Peter and Miles swing through the city of New York giving us a new perspective altogether, differing tremendously from the previous two titles.

The core story revolves around the return of Peter's best friend, Harry Osborn, a mysterious new black suit that enhances Peter's powers but has a sinister side to it, and Kraven the Hunter, terrorising New York in search of a worthy superhuman opponent to be his very last hunt. This masterful reinterpretation of the larger canon extends to its treatment of the main villains. Of course, with Peter's black suit comes Venom, the sinister symbiote and the overarching nemesis of this game, whose true and malicious nature initially remains hidden but is brought to light as the game progresses.

To conclude, it is a must-play game as it is a continuation of Insomniac's masterpiece of a game series being an emotional rollercoaster with outstanding graphics.

- Uddish Sharma (C)



# 12th Fail

I went to watch the 12th Fail movie at the grand premiere. It was the first time I watched a movie with the cast in reel and real. I witnessed the joy of

the performance observing the countenance of the actors and the tears of complex emotions in the eyes of the person on whose life this movie is based - Manoj Sharma, IPS. This movie is based on the novel written by Anurag Pathak. It revolves around the struggles of many youngsters preparing for UPSC. Superb acting by many new artists blurred the gap between the real and the script of the movie and I

observed that people were lost in their imaginations while they looked at the screen. This film contained many emotions from tragedy to happiness and the joy of success. I felt a strong sense of motivation gripping us there in the hall. The movie is about the journey from opportunistic cheating in examinations to a sense of honesty in pursuing one's goal. This is an inspiring movie for youngsters chasing

their dreams. This movie continues the legacy of Vidhu Vinod Chopra, known for his creative genius, especially in blurring the gap between entertainment and life goals. The cast of this movie steals hearts and impresses the audience. This movie has a true and pure flavour of a blockbuster hit. This movie is recommended to those who dare to dream.

- Neeti Pithode (4G)



FASHION:

# An Emerging Trend

Fashion trends are specific styles or preferences that gain popularity for a relatively shorter period, often driven by collective interest or desire. Megatrends, such as demographic changes in society and environmental changes influenced adaptive clothing and sustainable fashion respectively to develop as macro trends for the season.

Microtrends, such as sheer fabrics, high slits and extremely long sleeves were repeatedly seen in the Spring-Summer 2024 runway collections in women's fashion. Bare-chest looks, high-waisted tailored pants, and skirts also took over a major part of the season in the men's collection. Blazers, a mainstream trend, catered to a unisex look with abstract prints, waist cut-outs and non-traditional colours.

Here, below is a Catwalk Trend Board I developed for SS24 showcasing Metallics as a major upcoming trend, however, I expect it to become a fad rather than a mainstream trend due to its ACCOT rating.

## METALLICS

and Shimmery Sequins Silver

ORANGE CULTURE  
LAGOS SPRING 2024



EFRAÍN MOGOLLÓN  
MEXICO SPRING 2024



SHINYAKOZUKA  
TOKYO SPRING 2024

MANS  
SPAIN SPRING 2024



CPLUS SERIES  
SHANGHAI SPRING 2024



VIVIANO  
TOKYO SPRING 2024

Almost all shows displayed had a metallic look. The collections portrayed a spectrum of metallic textures and colours, with silver leading the list.

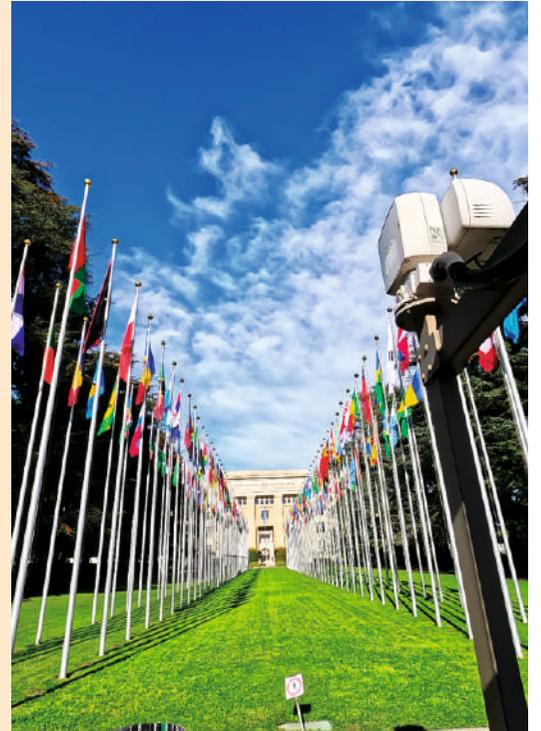
- Aanya Saxena (11B)

## TRAVELOGUE

### Embarking on a trip to Europe

Our journey began in Bhopal, fueled by months of anticipation. The airport rituals swiftly passed, and we found ourselves on a flight to Delhi. The short flight transitioned to an energetic airport rendezvous, marking the start of our expedition.

The flight to Paris, though seemingly endless, rewarded us with a breathtaking view of the Eiffel Tower during descent. Fatigue and cold weather greeted us, but the excitement persisted. Disneyland enchanted us the next day, with rides, parades, and the iconic Disney castle. The third day unfolded with visits to the Louvre, Seine River cruise, and the majestic Eiffel Tower. Switzerland beckoned, offering mesmerizing mountain views and a brief shopping spree. A visit to CERN and the United Nations in Geneva followed, providing insights into scientific and diplomatic realms.



Zurich welcomed us with the allure of a chocolate factory and a scenic cable car ascent to Mount Titlis. The Leaning Tower of Pisa and a charming dinner preceded our exploration of Rome's historic landmarks and the Vatican City. Florence showcased the Palazzo Vecchio, and Milan dazzled with its Duomo Di Milano. Our final day in Milan featured shopping in a high-end mall before bidding farewell to the city. As we flew back to Bhopal, we reflected upon cherished memories and the promise of future adventures.

- Nancy Chawla (6F)

### The Orchha Experience

Grades 5 and 6 went to Orchha on an educational trip in October, and I was lucky to be a part of this exciting adventure. I want to share my experience with my friends who couldn't join us. Despite the eleven-hour journey, we all had fun playing Antakshari and Uno. On day 2, we visited a farm, learned how to make leaf utensils 'pattal and donna', walked around the farm, savoured fresh peanuts and plucked some too! We concluded the day with a temple visit. Day 3 involved a fascinating forest visit. We walked around and saw many new things such as the Blue Buck's unique way of marking its territory. The day was thoroughly entertaining with lots of exploration, forest bingo and an unintended interaction with monkeys. Before we knew it, we were heading back home. Reaching Bhopal, we all missed Orchha. This trip was both educational and fun, thanks to my teachers and friends.

- Reva Sara Singh (5G)

COMIC STRIP

Does the Defendant plead for another trial with a real LAWYER?

Granted

Yes!

Hiring a lawyer...

Bro, I never lost a case!

You are hired!

In the court...

The defendant was found guilty

CASE CLOSED!

YOU SAID YOU NEVER LOST A CASE!!! LIAR!!!

Sit, you can get charged for 6 kills...

Spare me please!!

Illustration: Aanya Saxena (11B) Story: Soham Shrivastava (9C)



## Tête-à-Tête with **Justice Madan Bhimarao Lokur**



Supreme Court, Fiji, Ex-Judge,  
Supreme Court of India

**Q After your retirement as a judge in the Supreme Court of India, you became a judge on the non-resident panel of the Supreme Court of Fiji. Being the first Indian judge to serve in a foreign country is remarkable. How does it feel to represent India in an international legal setting, and how important do you consider this milestone in your career?**

Excerpts from the Interview

Being appointed as a judge by the Fijian Supreme Court is an honour for me and the nation as a whole. Since Fiji and India are commonwealth nations with a similar history, their judicial systems are essentially the same.

Fiji is a small nation made up of two main islands, and has a population of about 10–12 lakh. Hence, the volume of cases in Fiji's courts is quite low as compared to India. In contrast to India, the Supreme Court there does not sit daily, just three times in a year. April is the first of three sessions; August is the second, and October is the third. I have the freedom of attending the session of my choosing.

Since I work for the Supreme Court, I do not get many cases, however, the entire month is devoted to these sessions wherein I hear the appeals but there are no trials.

**Q You first enrolled as an advocate in 1977 and retired from the Apex Court in 2018. After being a part of the Indian Judicial System for so long, witnessing its expansion and development, what improvements have you come across that once seemed like a distant future?**

There have been several changes that have come about such as the introduction of mediation as a method of resolving disputes. It was Judge Lahoti who initiated this. As was mentioned in my introduction, I was a member of the committee for mediation and conciliation. The concept was to establish "Court Annexed Mediation," in which matters that are still ongoing in court might be sent for mediation and settled by a court-appointed mediator. Due to our success, we were able to expand this to Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, and many other cities by using the District Court in Delhi as our base for appeals. Mediation has a re-enacted legal framework and is currently conducted virtually.

Moreover, since the Lok Adalat System's introduction, the minor cases that would have taken precious time from the court are now being resolved at a lower level to the satisfaction of both the parties involved. The Lok Adalat is open to membership by anybody. When I went to my first Lok Adalat, I was a lawyer. After both sides presented their claims, we were expected to give a decision. This system has been used to resolve lakhs of cases. Furthermore, the establishment of Public Interest Litigation because of which as per The Supreme Court any citizen of India can write to the Chief Justice of India a letter outlining their grievance. Justice Lahoti, a retired judge, wrote a letter to me while I was on the Social Justice Bench stating that we needed to look into the terrible conditions in jails. As a result of this PIL, the issue was highlighted and reforms were made.

Technology too, has brought about a sea change in our vision of courts. When I was Chairperson of the e-committee, we introduced computers and installed video conferencing systems in every court of the country. This allowed courts to continue functioning even during the pandemic. Now live streams of proceedings are available in the Supreme Court and multiple High Courts.

Our perception of courts has drastically changed as a result of the introduction of technology in court procedures.

**Q Given your interest in judicial reforms and the computerization of courts, what advancements do you believe are crucial for the Indian legal system?**

I advocate prioritizing case management as a crucial measure to address the persistent issue of delays in our court systems. Although Justice M. Jagannath Rao, the former chair of the Law Commission, suggested case management guidelines which the Apex Court has approved; however, the Supreme Court and other courts have not yet implemented them. Effective court administration is imperative to expedite the resolutions quickly and cutting down on the amount of time it takes to deliver judgements. Plea bargaining in criminal trials and mediation in civil proceedings are equally essential. We successfully used these techniques to some extent in Delhi's district courts, albeit not widely. Plea negotiation can significantly improve cases, particularly those involving minor criminal offences.

During my tenure with the e-committee, we introduced virtual courts to address the pervasive issue of traffic offences in Delhi. Offenders could visit

the website, plead guilty, and pay the minimum fine online. This streamlined the process and alleviated the burden on magistrates dealing exclusively with traffic violations. The success of this initiative led to its adoption in other locations. Expanding on this concept, I propose applying virtual courts to handle petty offences, such as delayed or unpaid property taxes. Online resolution of such cases would significantly enhance efficiency and contribute to expeditious justice. These innovations, if embraced, have the potential to bring about a transformative impact on our legal system, promoting swifter and more accessible justice.

**Q Your bench earned the "Social Justice Bench" moniker for your penchant for social justice cases. Was there something specific that drew you to these particular kinds of cases?**

Social Justice, established at my behest, addresses the non-implementation of Public Interest litigation despite court orders. To oversee these orders, I suggested creating a monitoring system and taking control of it. Various cases within the realm of society prompted our involvement. The 'Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Scheme' fell short due to inadequate supervision, leading to delays in work and payments. By addressing this

problem, we made sure the program and the Food Security Commission would succeed. The intervention was required because minimum wage workers in the construction industry lost out on up to Rs. 25 crores. The spectrum of cases, including Juvenile Justice, revealed deplorable conditions in children's homes which violated their rights.

We made suggestions for enhancements and urged the administration to update prison facilities as a national model. Our efforts serve as a social regulatory framework in areas where laws were either non-existent or ineffectively applied, such as in jails. Such social justice initiatives have yielded positive and gratifying outcomes

**Q What is the impact of legal proceedings on the lives of juveniles, and what measures can be taken to ensure their overall well-being during the legal process?**

The horrific Nirbhaya case, predates the effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, which we, as the Social Justice Bench, have taken charge of. The Juvenile Justice Act drew attention to crimes committed by children. Despite the Act's focus on reforming the child, the Social Justice Bench believes that the emphasis should be on allowing self-reformation and societal reintegration of the juveniles. During my visits to observation rooms in Bhopal and Delhi, I observed subpar conditions which hindered the improvement and penitence of these accused children. Our challenge is to nurture these children into responsible citizens.

In the Social Justice Bench, we take proactive measures for their upliftment and rehabilitation. In order to address the offence, cases of illegal overcrowding in Delhi residences were corrected, bringing the total down from 258 to 48. The Juvenile Justice Board must prioritize the welfare of children, especially those escaping domestic violence or resorting to begging. Child Welfare Committees, established under the Juvenile Justice Act, play a crucial role in caring for these children. Even after I retire, I will remain committed to the proper care of juveniles as I recognize the importance of their integration into society and restoration to their families when feasible.

**Q Do you believe that the increasing adoption of ADR mechanisms, such as mediation and arbitration, by companies has significantly contributed to alleviating the burden on traditional courts in India, given the substantial backlog of cases? Alternatively, do you see a trend where ADR is often a precursor to resorting to traditional courts if an amicable solution is not achieved, thus indirectly adding to the workload of the judiciary?**

Mediation, arbitration, and other alternate resolution systems haven't reduced the case backlog significantly. In Delhi District Courts, only about 3 lakh cases are resolved through mediation. People choose arbitration for faster resolution, but decisions can be challenged in court. Despite the availability of alternate forums, cases often return to court, making little difference.

Institutionalizing mediation can reduce the burden on courts. Dysfunctional Gram Nyayalayas and ineffective systems have contributed to the backlogs. We're dealing with a backlog of 50 million cases. Fast-track courts for children's cases aim for 165 annual decisions, but the average is merely twenty-eight. Court management is crucial to address this problem.





**“A photograph has picked up a fact of life, and that fact will live forever.”**  
- Raghu Rai



Naman Singh Mewada (10A)



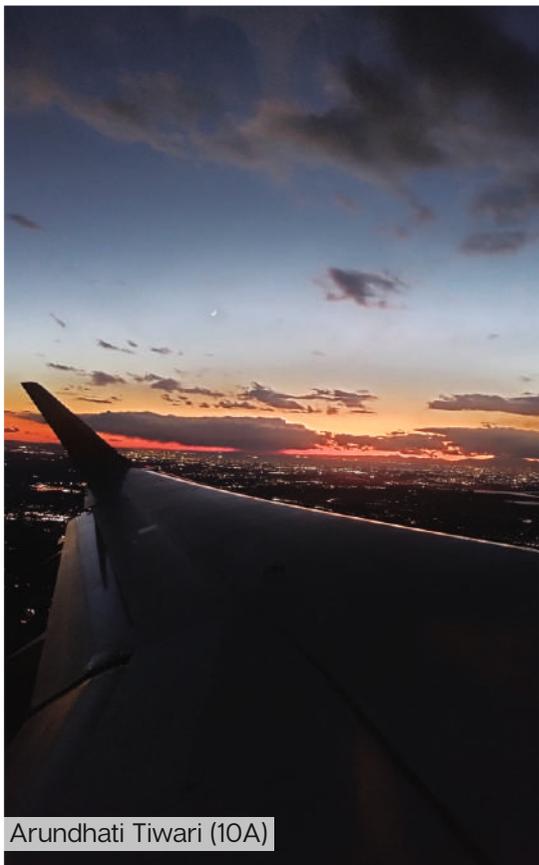
Harsh P. Khubchandani (12D)



Videhi Chugh (7F)



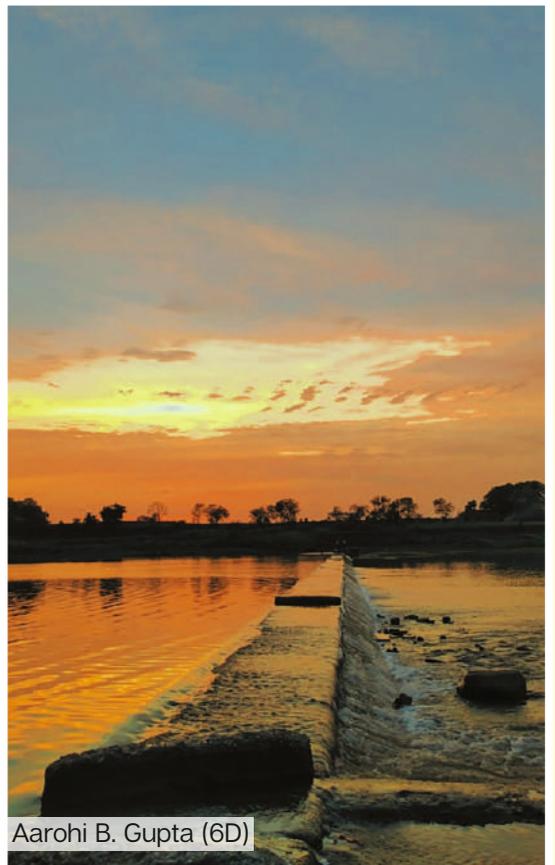
Anay Agarwal (4B)



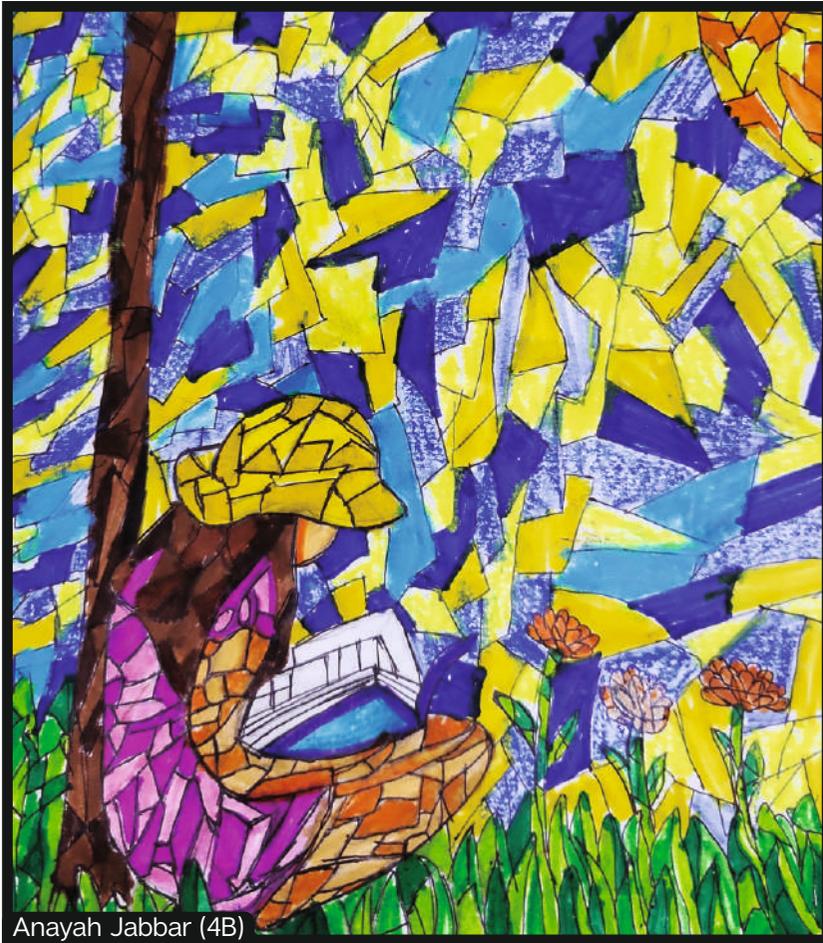
Arundhati Tiwari (10A)



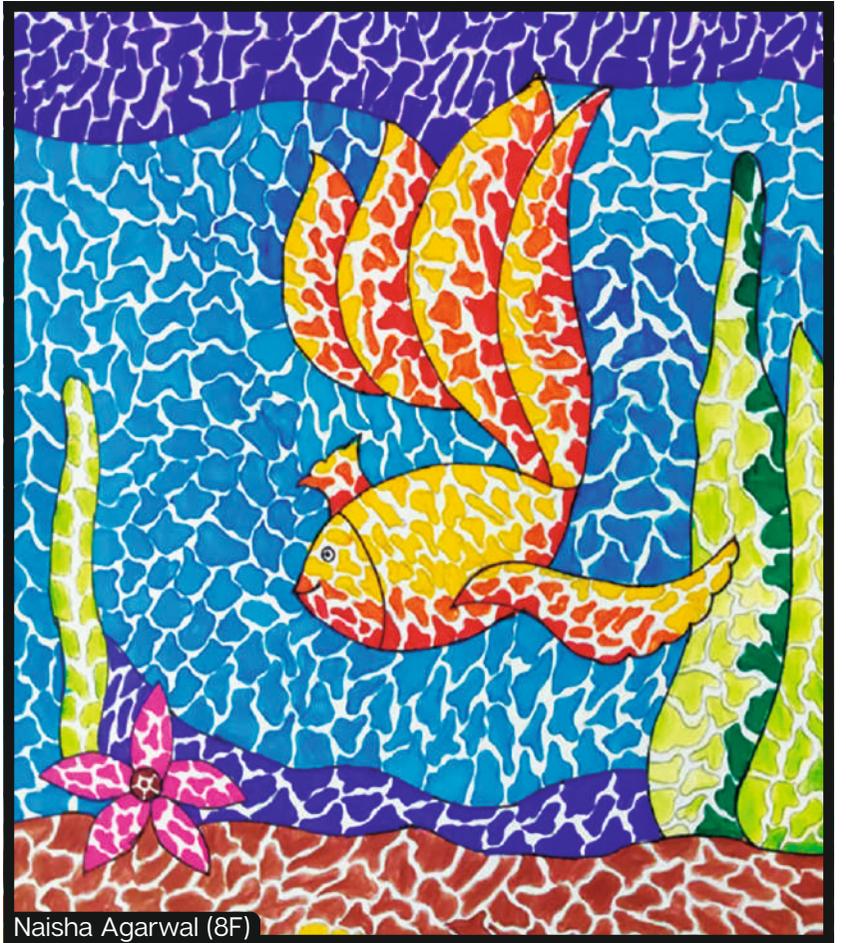
Arzoo Hajela (9D)



Aarohi B. Gupta (6D)



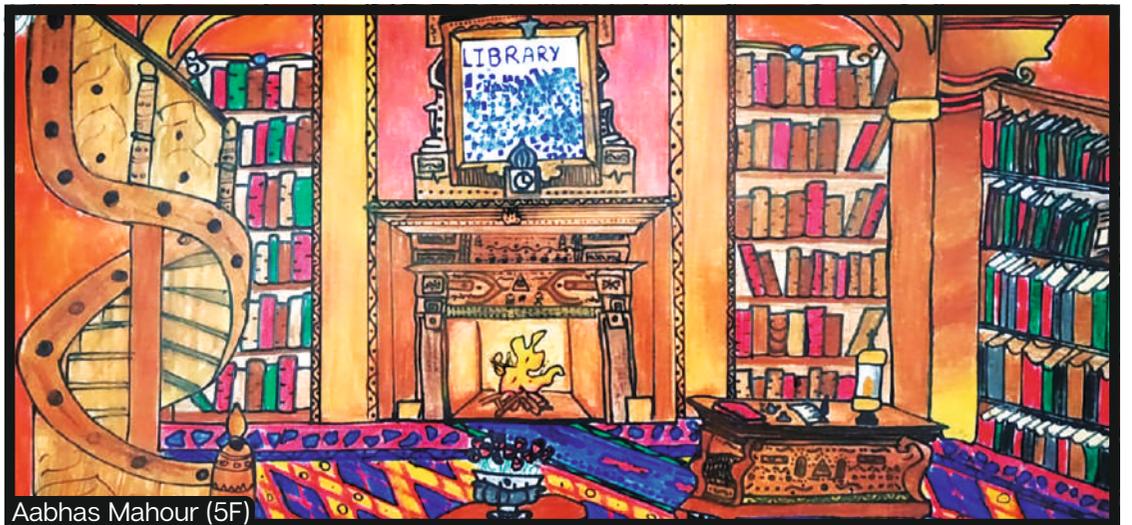
Anayah Jabbar (4B)



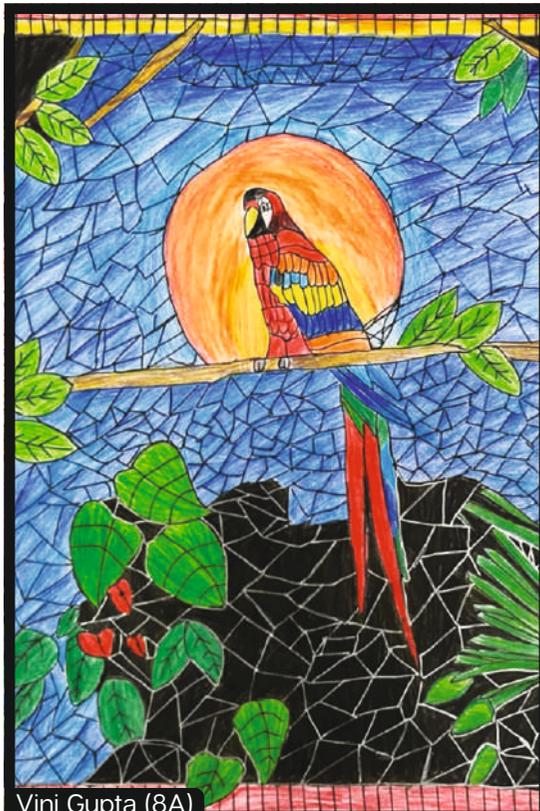
Naisha Agarwal (8F)



Vedant Singh (10D)



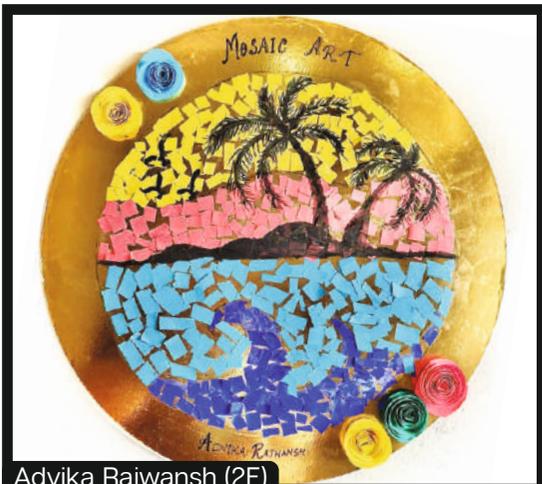
Aabhas Mahour (5F)



Vini Gupta (8A)



Vedika Jaisinghani (8E)



Advika Rajwansh (2E)