Balloons Deliver Internet in Kenya

Internet users in remote areas of Kenya are happy to browse through their devices, thanks to the internet services delivered to them through giant sized balloons! That’s right, these balloons act as floating cell towers that can reach remote areas by just hovering above. Each balloon is as big as a tennis court and float about 12 miles (20 kilometres) above the ground. The giant balloons can float for up to 100 days and run on solar power.

The project is run by a company called Loon which began as a special initiative with Google and later turned into its own company. Loon has partnered with Telkom Kenya, Kenya’s third-largest cell service company. Currently uses 35 balloons to provide internet service to around 19,000 square miles (50,000 square kilometres) of Kenya. Till 2019, less than 30% people were able to use the internet in Africa. Usually, in developed countries, the internet is provided through cable lines or cell towers that have been built over the years. In less developed countries, these facilities are not easily available and due to geographical locations, it would be too slow and expensive to build. Plus, installing such towers or digging for cables might damage the rich flora and fauna in these regions.

Though Kenya is already better connected than many other African countries, Loon started their services here because the Kenyan government was willing to try out new ideas for their remote villages. Loon plans to use its balloons in other parts of the world as well. The company already has discussed to offer their services in Mozambique and Peru. By accessing the internet, users in remote parts of Africa can now know about news around the world, weather conditions, education and entertainment. Isn’t this a brilliant idea!

The balloons used for Loon’s Kenya project were built and launched in the US and were slowly flown into place in Kenya.

Earlier, Loon’s balloons were used to provide internet connections during emergencies. For example, Loon delivered internet to Puerto Rico when its cell towers were destroyed by Hurricane Maria in 2017. It also delivered internet to areas of Peru after the damages caused by the 2019 earthquake.

Loon isn’t the first company to try such innovative methods of bringing internet service to remote areas. Facebook had tried to use drones to provide internet service in parts of Africa, but gave up after many operational challenges.

Did You Know?

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Dear friends,

We are happy to present our August edition for more than one reason. First, we get to reach out to you with yet another fun filled edition of My Paper and second, this is the month when we celebrate our Independence Day (15th August) the day our country was free from the British rule. The struggle of countless freedom fighters for many years finally made the British give up their tyrannical rule over India. We are sure we learn all this in history at school. But we have got some interesting information on India for you. Turn to the History page to know the different names that our country was called in the past. An additional page on Incredible India will give you a few details on our national identities like the national animal, national flower and more. We are sure you will enjoy reading this.

This month we also celebrate Ganeshotsav, a ten-days festival when we invite Lord Ganesha to our homes and worship him by offering prayers, flowers and good food. How interesting it would be to make your own Ganesha idol, isn’t it? Thus, we have an exclusive page Do It Yourself, which gives you this wonderful opportunity. You can order the material on the number given and have fun making your own Ganesha. What’s more, you can follow an eco-friendly immersion on the 10th day by planting this idol’s clay that will sprout into a flower plant!

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Read the Health page to know that not every cough or sneeze is an indication of the Covid infection. Many of us may simply have an allergy or choke upon dust particle thus resulting in a cough. Take it easy and do not panic. It is important to be careful but more important is to be strong and not panic to every small incident. This month, the Music and Art page introduces you to an amazing art form from southern India, the Tanjore Art. Take a look at the beautiful artworks and observe the intricate detailing done on them. We shall bring to you, different forms of art from various parts of India every month. We have not forgotten our regular treat of puzzles, riddles, recipes, sudoku and more. Even the news selected this month are bound to amuse you.

We shall be back next month, till then… be safe, be healthy.

Love,

Your editor Shweta.
Scientists have created a new device that uses the contrast between bright spots and shades to create an electric current. This current can power small electronics, such as a watch or LED lights. Right now, the device measures 4 centimetres long and 2 centimetres wide (as big as a postage stamp) and managed to power an electronic watch using eight such generators. But researchers feel that they can produce more energy with larger devices in light and shadow spaces between tall buildings. With this technology, energy can be harvested anywhere on Earth and not just open spaces but even indoors.

The scientists who created this device call it a “shadow-effect energy generator”. They made it by coating silicon with a thin layer of gold. Silicon is often used in solar cells that produce electricity from sunlight. Electrons are one of the particles that make up atoms and have a negative electric charge. When light shines on this generator, the electrons get energized and move into the gold. Electrons flow from high to low voltage areas. So, the difference in light levels creates an electric current. This movement creates an electric current.

**What is Photovoltaic Effect**

The effect due to which light energy is converted to electric energy in certain semiconductor materials is known as photovoltaic effect. It is the generation of voltage and electric current in a material when exposed to light. It is a physical and chemical phenomenon.

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**Robot Runs Its Own Experiments**

Scientists have developed a robot that can run experiments on its own. The hard-working lab robot works non-stop, taking a break only to recharge its batteries. Last month, the robot finished nearly 700 experiments in eight days! Although they are known to perform jobs, earlier robots stayed in one place and did a single job over and over. This 5 feet-7 inches tall robot weighs about 400 kg and can easily move around in the same sort of space as humans do. It uses a special laser system called LIDAR to guide itself even in the dark and gauges its exact position through its touch sensors at his work place. It has one long arm which can turn in almost any direction and can perform many different tasks, such as picking things up, setting them down, pushing buttons, pouring liquids, weighing and measuring things, and studying its results.

The robot was built and programmed by Benjamin Burger, a PhD student at the University of Liverpool (UL). Dr. Burger says it took a lot of effort to program the robot so that it can do things without making mistakes. To test their robot, the scientists gave it a challenge: to find a material which was good at producing hydrogen from water, using light. The robot was programmed to understand the basic methods for the experiment and soon enough, it set off on its mission. Over the next 8 days, the robot ran 688 experiments, choosing its next experiment based on the results of the last one.

It ran around the lab for 172 hours, stopping for only a couple of hours each day to recharge its batteries. For a normal human being it would have taken several months to do the same amount of work. Though it worked for 8 days, its most successful result for the experiment came on the third day of experimenting. Oh, building this robot wasn’t cheap, it cost around $125,000 and took years to program!
Common Cold Remedy
Mix lemon juice (half a lemon) + cinnamon powder (1 teaspoon) + honey (1 tablespoon).

Throat Inflammation Cure
Boil milk and pour it in a cup. Now add a small piece of crushed ginger (1 teaspoon), honey (1 tablespoon) and turmeric (half teaspoon), mix well. Drink before sleeping. Helps in curing throat inflammation, running nose and clears phlegm from the respiratory tract.

Sore Throat
Mix 1 teaspoon of salt in warm water. Add a few drops of lemon. Gargle with this mixture before sleeping, will reduce the soreness in the throat. Regular gargling will reduce the possibility of a throat infection.

Chest Congestion
Take half teaspoon of black pepper, 1 teaspoon of cumin (jeera), 1 tablespoon of jaggery and mix well in hot (but not boiling) water. Sip slowly to fight chest congestion.

Indigestion and Bloating
Take a large cup of warm water and add one tablespoon of carom seeds (ajwain) + a pinch of salt and mix well. Sip slowly and ease that stomach from pain.
Celebrating the Parsi New Year

The Parsi community is found in India and some other parts of the world. Pateti is the day before the Parsi New Year. The name Pateti originates from the word ‘Patet’ which means repentance. The next day is celebrated as ‘Navroze’ and is the actual Parsi New Year.

Pateti

Parsi believe that knowingly or unknowingly, one causes harm or hurt to others. Pateti is the day that person can repent his mistakes and sins by purifying the mind before the holy fire and begin afresh on the next day which marks a new year. On this day the house is cleaned and decorated with flowers and rangoli at the doorway. A visit to the Fire Temple is a must during this event.

Navruz/Navroz

This is the first day of a new year for Parsi, hence it is celebrated with lot of enthusiasm and cheer. The Parsi gift each other new clothes, gifts, sweets and visit the Fire Temple for prayers. It is also a great time for them to meet up their near and dear ones, which is then followed by a grand feast at home. Parsis love food, so the festival is celebrated with a variety of vegetarian and non-vegetarian delicacies followed by mouth-watering sweet dishes.

Meet the Parsi

Parsi are followers of Zoroastrianism founded by Zarathustra or Zoroaster, who was an ancient Iranian-speaking spiritual leader and taught spiritual philosophy and realization of the Divine. It is believed that the Persian king Jamshed first introduced the Parsi calendar, and as a way of honouring him, the day is also known as Jamshed-i-Nowruz.

According to Parsi tradition, a group of Iranian Zoroastrians left Persia to escape religious persecution by the Arab invaders in their lands. They sailed across the Arabian Sea and landed in Gujarat sometime between 785 and 936 A.D. Since then they have not only made India their home, but also made our country proud on various occasions and in various fields.

Some world famous Parsi:

- Homi Jehangir Bhabha
- Jamshedji Tata
- JRD Tata
- Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw
- Ratan Tata
- Ardesir Godrej

Did you know, there is a day dedicated to ice-creams? Well, not only a single day but a whole month to celebrate as Ice Cream Month! In America a person consumes about 105 litres of ice cream on an average each year. As the summer reaches peak temperatures in July, Americans celebrate all of July as National Ice Cream Month as a way to cool off and enjoy the nation’s favourite frozen treat with friends and family. Ice cream has historically been a key feature of American communities. Most ice cream companies in America are family owned and have been in operation for more than 50 years!

When it all began

In 1984, American President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday of the month as National Ice Cream Day. In the declaration, President Reagan called the ice cream as a nutritious and wholesome food and called for all people of the United States to observe these events with appropriate ceremonies and activities...which means consuming as much of the frozen dessert as you can. Fun, isn’t it? We in India will have to wait till our summer to feast on our yummy ice cream flavours.
Flying Without Flapping

A study recently noted that Andean Condors could fly hundreds of kilometres without flapping their wings. Of course, they do flap their wings while taking off from the ground, but once in the air they can soar around and travel large distances by just spreading their wings. The Andean Condor is amongst the world's largest birds. They can weigh up to 15 kg and measure up to 10 ft with their wings stretched out. They are found in the Andes mountains along the Pacific coast of South America and feed mostly on bodies of large animals which have died.

Scientists wanted to learn more about the flight patterns of this bird. So, they attached a special device on the bird's back which could remotely record every turn the condors made in the air, as well as every beat of their wings. It was found that most of the flapping happened when the birds were taking off and once in the sky, they flapped their wings for just 1% of the time. One such bird flew for over five hours without flapping, covering nearly 172 km. Isn't that amazing!

Soaring without flapping their wings is important for birds because they burn a lot of energy every time they flap their wings.

Flying Ant Day

Last month the meteorological office in England noticed a large patch of dark cloud on their radar over the south-east coast. At first, they thought it to be a rain cloud but on closer observation they were stunned to find that it actually was a massive swarm of flying ants! The swarm stretched up to 80kms in the sky. Meteorologists say that a similar thing happened almost exactly a year ago on flying ant day.

What is a ‘flying ant day’?
A Flying Ant Day occurs when males and new queen ants leave the nest to mate, with many other ant colonies on the same day. According to the Royal Society of Biology’s the Flying Ant Survey, there is no exact day where these ants all appear all at once. Depending on weather conditions, the ants can start emerging and flying at almost any point during the summer months.

The survey found that ants flew only when the temperature was above 25 degrees and when the wind speed was less than 6.3 metres per second.

Ducks Poop Fish Eggs

That's gross, you may say but scientists have found that fish eggs survived in the duck's stomach after being eaten and hatched when these eggs were thrown out through the duck poop. In an experiment carried out in the lab, scientists fed thousands of eggs from two invasive carp species (type of fish) to eight mallard ducks. About 0.2 percent of the eaten eggs (18 of 8,000) were intact after the duck defecated. Some of those eggs contained wriggling embryos and a few eggs hatched later. Most of the eggs were pooped out within an hour of being eaten, while some ducks took at least four hours to pass.

Researchers have always wondered for many years on how isolated water bodies can be populated by fish. This study helps in answering that question that most of the fish species spread to different water bodies because migratory ducks could travel hundreds of kilometres and excrete those eggs in different water bodies. A single fish can release hundreds of thousands of eggs at a time and there are many migratory ducks and other water birds throughout the world that may eat those eggs and dump them elsewhere.
Incredible India

This month we celebrate India’s Independence Day. Most of us know India either by the name of Bharat or Hindustan. But in the past, India was known by several different names in several different eras. Let’s take a look at some of those names by which our country was known as.

Jambudvipa
An ancient name for India which means “the land of Jambu trees” can be found in numerous religious texts in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Jambu or Jambul means Indian blackberry and Dvipa means continent.

Nabhivarsha
In Jain texts, India was known as Nabhivarsha, the country of Nabhi. Nabhi was a Chakravarti King and father of first Jain Tirthankara Rishabhanatha. According to Hindu texts, Nabhi means navel of Brahma and Varsha means country.

Aryavrata
In ancient Sanskrit literature, Aryavarta is the name for North India. It was also described as the region between the Himalaya and the Vindhya ranges, from the Eastern (Bay of Bengal) to the Western Sea (Arabian Sea).

Bharatvarsha
Bharatvarsha name is found in Vishnu Purana as the country (varsha) that lies north of the ocean and south of the snowy mountains, occupied by the descendants of Bharata, the Vedic age king.

Bharat
Bharat, the official name of India in Hindi is the derived from Bharatvarsha.

Hind
This name is the Persian language equivalent of Sindh, the Indus Valley region. According to historians, Persians were not able to pronounce Sindh properly. They made ‘H’ sound instead of ‘S’ hence the word Sindh became Hind.

Hindustan
In the 11th century, the Muslim invaders called their Indian dominion Hindustan, the land of Hind.

Al-Hind
In some Arabic text India is denoted by the name of Al-Hind, which means ‘The Hind’.

Tianzhu
Tianzhu is the Chinese historical name for India. Originally pronounced xien-t’juk, it is derived from the word Hindu.

Tenjiku
Tenjiku is the Japanese version of the Chinese name for India, Tianzhu.

Cheonchuk
This is the historical Korean name of India. It is pronounced like Chinese name for India, Tianzhu (xien-t’juk).

Shendu
According to Sima Qian, a Chinese scholar, India is mentioned as Shendu. Possibly the distortion of the word “Sindhu”.

Tiandu
In Hou Hanshu or Book of the Later Han, the Chinese court document covering the history of Han dynasty from 6 to 189 CE, India is known as Tiandu.

Wutianzhu
In China, India is also referred as Wutianzhu, which literally means “Five Indias” means combination of five major regions, Central, Eastern, Western, Northern, and Southern India.

Hidush
This is another Persian name of India, which is found in the accounts of Darius the Great. Darius controlled the Indus Valley from Gandhara to modern Karachi around 515 BC.

Hodu
Hodu is the Biblical Hebrew name for India. It is mentioned in the book of Esther.

Indo
Indo is the Japanese name for the Republic of India.

Indika/Indica
The ancient Greek historian and explorer Megasthenes called India by the name of Indika. His popular work Indika is the description of the Mauryan Empire.

Sone Ki Chidiya
Which literally means the Golden Sparrow, is a popular nickname given by Indian freedom fighters to India for its riches and high culture. The name was used by freedom fighters to boost the morale of the people and fight against austerities of British Empire.

India
The current name India is derived from Sindhu (Indus) river.
The story of Ganesha says that this god of wisdom was created by goddess Parvati out of soil. She then used her powers to bring this idol to life. Of course, we all know the story ahead, but how about making your own Ganesha this year? And what an amazing idea it would be if we make an eco-friendly Ganesha idol and further keep it in our homes as a plant! Really, this is what “Plant Your Ganesha” workshop by Clay Events is offering this Ganesh Chaturthi, where readers can order a kit and make their own Ganesha idols at home for the festival.

Since we are urged to stay indoor to be safe from the Corona virus, this is a great idea to have an eco-friendly material delivered at home and have fun in creating it too! For guidance on how to make this idol, the organizers have organized a virtual workshop on certain days, where you can go online and follow the instructions. The wonderful concept is not just about art, but also an act of goodness to promote festive spirit among the young generation without harming our environment. So grab this opportunity and order your kit on the number mentioned below.

The kit that is packed by following proper hygiene, can be delivered to your home anywhere in India and includes:
- Clay for Ganpati idol
- Popsicle sticks for detailing
- Toothpicks for carving
- Artificial Garland
- Mukut (crown for Bappa)
- Small face dupatta
- Hem brand incense stick
- Small board (7” x 4” x 2.5”)
- Visarjan material like Pot, soil, marigold plant seeds, nutrient disc

Cost: Rs 950
Last date to order:
Within Mumbai: 15th Aug
Outside Mumbai: 10th Aug

For details call: 9833744764

Special Discount for My Paper readers. Order your kit on the number given here and share the promo code ‘MY GANESHA’ and avail a 10% discount on your order!
Ever wondered why India was called as a “Sone Ki Chidiya” in olden days? That’s because India was culturally very rich & often encouraged creativity, chiefly-classical dance and music, as well as art and literature.

Tanjore painting as it’s called today is a refined name for Thanjavur painting. This art form has been practiced since the late 16th century. In olden days, the paintings were embedded with the real rubies, diamonds and other precious stones but as years passed, artificial and semi-precious stones were used. The base of these paintings are panels mainly done on wooden planks of the jackfruit tree and hence also referred as palgai (wooden plank) padam (painting). The colours used were natural extracts of vegetables and mineral dyes. Materials like glass, wood, mica, as well as some unusual mediums like murals, ivory and manuscripts were also used for the paintings. The two major communities which practiced this art form were the Naidus from Madurai and the Rajus from Thanjavur.

One of the easiest characteristics of this painting is the gold inlay work that is more prominent in the overall body of the composition. Tanjore painting features a simple structure featuring devotional icons of gods & goddesses. While it particularly uses rich and vivid colors, one can’t miss the eminent use of glittering real gold foils overlaid on delicate work and inlay of intricacy with glass beads and sometimes rare precious and semi-precious gems.

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**Art Quiz**

Let’s take this quiz on different forms of art that we see around us. How many of these have you tried creating? We are sure you will learn a thing or two with this simple quiz.

1. A pointed tool which is used for making small holes in sculpting
   a. Chisel
   b. Awl
   c. Wrench
   d. Pin

2. The art form that is created with knotted string
   a. Papier-Mache
   b. Origami
   c. Basketing
   d. Macrame

3. Creating an artwork using different paper cut-outs is called?
   a. Lithography
   b. Wallpapering
   c. Poster Making
   d. Decoupage

4. Form of painting on a cloth, using wax on areas NOT to be dyed is called?
   a. Batik
   b. Silk Screening
   c. Waxing
   d. Tie & Dye

5. These are prints made by pressing paper with an inked stone
   a. Stone Prints
   b. Printing
   c. Lithography
   d. Stone Wash

Answers on page 18
Alphabet Square

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1. Not letting something fall, for instance a cricket ball after being hit
2. Points obtained in a game or a match
3. That sensation of wanting to scratch a part of our body
4. An idea to fool someone or to entertain
5. The storage space overhead or a loft

Answers on page 18

Laugh Aloud

What is a robot’s favourite snack?
**Microchips**

What is a robot’s favourite music?
**Heavy metal**

What is an agricultural robot called?
**A transformer**

What is the robot’s favourite sport?
**Th-Roball**

How did the company give the robot a send off party?
They Discharged him

Giggles

1. Why did the teacher wear sunglasses when she entered the class?
2. What do you call something that has a neck but no head, has two arms but no hands and no legs?
3. Jenny’s father has three children. Inky, Pinky, and ____?
4. What is orange with a green top and sounds like a parrot?
5. What can you hear, but not see or touch even though you can control it?

Riddle Time

1. What is at the end of Everything?
2. A book slips from a boy’s hand and falls on the floor with a big thud. 20 eyes look at him startled. How many people were there in the classroom?
3. How many birthdays does an average person have?
4. A doctor gives the patient three pills telling him to take one every half hour. How long would the pills last?
5. A super car racer was heading down the street in his city. He went right past a red traffic signal without stopping, turned right where there was a “No Right Turn” sign and entered a “No Entry” lane. At the end of the lane he ran into the traffic police and yet he was not penalised. Why?

Unscramble

This month we celebrate Ganeshotsav in India and many parts of the world. Here’s a fun puzzle to unscramble words associated with the lord of wisdom, Ganesha.

**MODSIW**  **WISDOM**

1. OSUME
2. DAMOK
3. WEDGENOWLK
4. KRUNT
5. SNEHAGAN
### Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can’t change the numbers given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

Answers on page 18

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### Let’s Colour

Can you find the mistake here?

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Pay Attention
Devashri
Std 4, Vruksha Montessori School, Chennai

Arav
Nikam
Std 5
Vibgyor High, Balewadi, Pune

Ashmit
Jayant
Std 5
Vibgyor High, Balewadi, Pune

Vani
Agarwal
Std 5
Vibgyor High, Balewadi, Pune

Deveshi
Morwal
Std 7, Chatrabhuj Narsee Memorial School, Mumbai

Freya
Malkan
Std 7, Chatrabhuj Narsee Memorial School, Mumbai

Harshita
Surana
Std 5
Vibgyor High, Balewadi, Pune

Shlok
Ranawade
Std 5, Dr. Kalmadi Shamrao High School, Pune

Srushti Chinchole
Std 7, Symbiosis Nashik School

Dheer Bedre
Std 2, Pawar Public School, Kandivali, Mumbai

Jeeya Kocharekar
Std 9, Chatrabhuj Narsee Memorial School, Mumbai
Yashvi Mehta
Std 9, Chatrabhuj Narsee Memorial School, Mumbai

Aastha Mehta
Std 7, Chatrabhuj Narsee Memorial School, Mumbai

Kanchan Gaikwad
Std 5, Vibgyor High Balewadi, Pune

Advik Savant
Std 5, Navy Children School, New Delhi

Anushka Lokare
Std 3, Sanskriti School, Undri, Pune

Harshitha Sharath
Vruksha Montessori School, Chennai

Kanak Wagh
Std 5, Vibgyor High Balewadi, Pune

Veda Rathi
Std 4, Alma Mater Jodhpur

Kyra Kamble
Std 7, Vibgyor High Balewadi, Pune
The Internet Rules You Should Know

“Our future world will have to find equilibrium in the technology pendulum swing.” As rightly predicted by Stephane Nappo, the period of COVID-19 has left us with no option but to get our hands on to technology. These unpredictable times due to an incomprehensible yet inevitable virus has made technology the only way to move on with our necessary activities, especially education for us, the young, curious minds.

Universally, online education has become the only way to get going with the education. The classes held here are as important and helpful as usual school classes. Online manners reflect a responsible and focused student and good manners are always in fashion! As a scholar, I would like to share few points to be taken care of amidst online classes.

- Be Respectful. Respect the rules, others’ opinions as well.
- Mind your body language.
- Sign in as soon as you can. Be ready well on time and be prepared.
- Greetings should be formal. Being formal and using formal language with the teacher is the right way.
- Until and unless you speak, your microphone should be turned off. Even when you finish speaking, switch off your microphone instantly.
- Taking notes on a notepad will be helpful for you. This will show you being mentally present in the class.
- Always look at the camera while listening. This will show that you are listening and paying attention.
- Ask in the chat box provided, or, ask when the class is cozying up so that you don’t interrupt the session. But don’t overuse it.
- Speak and answer as frequently as possible but listening, at the same time is also very important.
- Be careful with your tone, be as polite as you can.
- Never eat or sleep in the class, especially when the camera is on. Yawning with the camera on is a big NO.
- Never use slang language and informal abbreviations.
- Stay on topic and make clear and brief points.
- Submit assignments on time.
- Always express your gratitude towards the educator. Develop an attitude of appreciation.
- Lastly, never leave the class abruptly. Seek permission.

All these points will show that you are considerate towards the classes. Let your internet engagement show your inner beauty through online actions with NETIQUETTES.

By Niharika Pamnani
Std 9
Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls’ School, Jodhpur

The Wizard

Under the signs of the waxing moon
The wizard finds a precious rune
He charges it with the scented oil
While he waits for the pot to boil

His magic wand leaves a starry blaze
That pitch-black darkness won’t erase
The candles burn down till they melt
While he prepares that special spell

He takes the chalice in his hands
And o’er the cauldron where he stands
A black cat walks around nearby
And objects fly around the sky

The wizard casts a special wish
And cooks a very potent dish
And waits for the spell to work
While he is watching with a smirk

By S H I Juhitha Kumari
Std 6, Greenwood High International, Bangalore
Once upon a time, there lived a queen of Sparta named Helen. She was known to be very beautiful. When the prince of Troy named Paris learned about her, he kidnapped her and took her to his city called Troy. It was located across the Aegean Sea near the Greek kingdom of Sparta. The king of Sparta was furious and called on the other Greek rulers to help him get Helen back from Troy. His call was answered and a thousand Greek ships set sail for Troy.

However, Troy was protected by a high wall built all around the city so that invaders could not come into their land. If any attacker tried scaling the wall, the Trojan army would shoot arrows at them before they were even able to come close to the massive gates. The Trojan army was safe inside these walls. When the Greek warriors reached Troy, they kept attacking the city but could not get past the walls or the heavily guarded gates. The war went on for ten years!

Soon, the attackers started running out of food and soldiers. The tired Greek were ready to give up and that is when one of their generals, Odysseus, thought of an amazing idea. It was a custom back then to leave a peace gift behind to admit defeat by an army. Odysseus suggested that the Greek build a huge, beautiful wooden horse, and leave it outside the gates of Troy. Then the Greek army would set off on their ships towards Sparta as if depicting withdrawal. But inside the hollow horse, a few soldiers would hide and attack the guards once they were inside the gates. With the gates open, their armies would enter the fortified place and fight again.

As expected by the Greek, Trojan guards saw this huge horse standing alone at the gate and the enemy ships sailing away. Assuming that the Spartans have accepted defeat and left behind a peace gift, they dragged this wooden horse inside their gates. That night the entire city of Troy celebrated their apparent victory and feasted till they were exhausted.

Late that night when all the guards fell asleep, 30 Spartan warriors who were hiding inside the wooden horse, sprang into action. They killed the guards and threw open the gates. The Spartan army which pretended to sail away had returned in the dark night and stormed through the gates of Troy destroying the city and its people. That is how Troy was won through a Trojan horse trick.
Chocolate Modaks

This Ganeshotsav, treat Ganpati Bappa with his favourite dish- modaks! And what's more, you can make it yourself with an additional flavour of chocolate!

What you need

Milk: half cup  
Condensed milk (like milkmaid): half cup  
Chocolate powder (sweet): 4 tablespoons  
Marrie Biscuits: 10 biscuits  
Almonds to garnish  
Modak moulds

Take milk, chocolate powder and milkmaid in a pan and heat (stir well). Make sure you have an adult member of the family when you are near the flame. Keep the flame on low and keep stirring so that the mixture doesn't stick to the pan.

Once it turns into a fine paste, add crushed marrie biscuits to it. Again, mix well.

Now add the chopped almonds and mix well. It will look like a thick dough. Allow it to cool (no, do not keep it in the refrigerator).

Apply a little bit of ghee on the insides of the modak moulds and fill it with this mixture. Serve the modaks to Ganpati Bappa and share it with everyone in the house.

Draw Ganesha with ABCD

Did you know, Ganpati is the easiest figure to draw and can be created using almost any shape, size and form?

Check out these few alphabets from which you can create a Ganesha image. Would you like to try the other alphabets on your own? Why only alphabets, you can also try using numbers, shapes and objects. Try some of those and see the magic. Send us some of your innovative ideas and we shall be happy to publish it here.
Dear Parents,

Kudos to your hard work in this crisis time. You have been multi-tasking so very well. I have been getting lot of queries related to parenting these days, so thought of talking with you. These are completely unexpected times for all of us and the fear, anxiety and stress in the environment is getting absorbed by our children thus impacting their behaviour, making it challenging for the parents. Here are some strategies to help fine-tune your parenting practices so that peace is restored for all.

Talk to your children about the current situation. We as parents are confused, so are children. Routines have changed, schedules have changed and we have become home bound. May be children are not able to express their anxiety but they might show behavioural changes. So, give them a sense of belonging, discuss with them: What do they think has happened? How are they feeling about it? What is the best thing that can be done in these times? Asking them questions helps in engaging conversations and make them feel better. Please do not have blaring news channels running scary repetitive news all the time. Do not expose children to negative news at all.

Another big challenge we as parents are facing is how to follow routines. Be flexible and accept the current situation whole heartedly. Rather than you getting after them to follow some routine, involve your children in the planning. The younger ones can suggest a routine easy for them while the slightly older ones can make a routine for themselves. Believe me, when children make routines on their own, they are more likely to stick to it.

Don’t forget to validate feelings of your children. Children get upset because they are unable to meet their friends, grandparents or cousins. Some of them might become too sad because they are unable to celebrate their birthdays. Don’t ever say that “We have bigger issues, why are you getting so upset about such a small thing like your birthday”. Instead empathise with their feelings.

Incorporate recreational activities with your children. For example, play some music and dance together, which is a beautiful exercise for all. Maximise this time of togetherness as a family by cooking, eating, playing together.

Try not to be a perfectionist or a strict disciplinarian. Accept that your home will not look like a hotel. Let the mess be, it's absolutely okay, don’t stress about it. And most importantly, please take care of yourself. Begin your day with gratitude, take some physical exercise, stay connected with your friends, meditate if possible, read something positive before sleeping. Pray together as a family, count on your blessings.

Wish you all a happy & informed Parenting Journey!

Dr. Bindu Selot
Counsellor, Author &
Teacher Trainer
Ph: 9971202322

Riddle Time
1. The letter “G,”
2. 11 people. We each have 2 eyes. There is no mention about pairs of eyes. So, we have 10 people plus the boy who dropped the book. He can’t look at himself, but he’s still in the classroom, right?
3. Only one birthday, the day he was born but every year he ‘celebrates’ it.
4. If you said one and half hours, you are wrong! The patient takes one at the start of the hour, one after 30 minutes, and the third the end of the hour. So, answer is one hour.
5. Because he was walking, not driving his car.

Giggles
1. Because the students were bright
2. A shirt
3. Jenny!!!
4. A carrot
5. Your voice

Art Quiz
1. (b) Awl
2. (d) Macramé
3. (d) Decoupage
4. (a) Batik
5. (c) Lithography

Pay Attention: Spelling of mistake is wrong

Sudoku

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This month we celebrate our country’s Independence Day from the British rule. A lot of people sacrificed their lives in this freedom struggle for which we remain indebted forever. Many of us must have already read about Independence Day at school, while the ones who are still young will get to learn the story soon. This month, let’s look at India’s national treasure.

**National Tree**
The Banyan Tree or the Indian fig tree is our national tree. The botanical name of this tree is Ficus Bengalensis. The branches sprout multiple roots that grow towards the ground and penetrate themselves over a large area. These roots then give rise to more trunks and branches that develop into a dense shady tree. Because of this characteristic and its longevity, the Banyan tree is considered immortal and is an integral part of culture and legends in India. Even today, one can sight a huge banyan tree in countless villages of India under which the village council meets or is the prime location for social gatherings.

**National Bird**
The Indian peacock is the national bird of India. It is a vibrantly colourful bird that leaves anyone mesmerised by its beauty. The scientific name of the Indian peacock is “Pavo Cristatus” and has a fan-shaped crest of feathers, a white patch under the eye and a long, slender neck. The male of the species is more colourful than the female, with a glistening blue chest and neck and a spectacular bronze-green tail of around 200 elongated feathers. The attractive tail is only present on the male bird while the female is brownish, slightly smaller than the male and lacks a tail. The actual pleasant sight is when the male bird fans out its tail to display a fantastic view of the feathers.

**National Flower**
The Lotus is the National Flower of India. It is considered very sacred by many cultures and occupies a unique position in the art and mythology of ancient India. Its botanical name is Nelumbo Nucifera Gaertn.

**National Song**
“Jana Gana Mana...” the song that we sing daily at school is the national anthem of India. Apart from schools, the anthem is played or sung on various occasions in sports, entertainment, political and defence events. It was composed by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, in which he praises our motherland with its glorious and rich heritage.

**National Animal**
India’s national animal is the Royal Bengal Tiger. The magnificent animal depicts grace, strength, agility and enormous power. Its scientific name is the ‘Panthera Tigris’, a ferocious wild cat with a thick yellow coat of fur and dark stripes.

**National Anthem**
The song Vande Mataram, composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterji is the National Song of India. The song was a source of inspiration to the people of India during the struggle for independence. It is given an equal status of pride along with “Jana-gana-mana”. Many schools and establishments in India sing this song regularly.

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Kung Fu Bear

Recently a video of a bear in a zoo showing off its martial arts skills went viral on the social media. In the video, the four-year-old black bear Tsubasa, is seen effortlessly handling a three-section-staff, a traditional martial arts weapon, much to the amazement of viewers across the globe. In an undated video from the Yagiyama Zoological Park in Japan, the furry animal plays with his nun-chuck with deft expertise.

At first, netizens suspected that a human is wearing a bear costume and performing this act for amusement. But the zoo officials confirmed that this really is Tsubasa, who was given this stick to play with and he managed to learn a few tricks with his “weapon”. Well, we have seen Po, the Panda, do all sorts of martial arts on screen but Tsubasa the black bear turned out to be the real Kungfu master.

Parrot Outsmarts Humans

Griffin, an African Grey parrot, has proved that birds may possess better visual memories than human adults and children. He proved his intelligence by outsmarting over 40 students in a memory game. The fun experiment was part of a recent study published in Scientific Reports by researchers at the Harvard University’s Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. It was conducted to test the brain’s ability to remember things that are no longer in view and then identify them when faced with new information, like a change in location. The cognitive system, known as visual working memory, is one of the foundations for intelligent behaviour.

Griffin had to compete in a challenge game against 21 undergraduate students and 21 kids in the 6-8-year-old bracket. The popular challenge involves hiding a small object under inverted cups or nutshells, which are moved around. Participants are required to accurately identify the cup or nutshell under which the object lies. The results showed that Griffin outperformed the 6-to-8-year-olds across all levels on average. What’s more, the brainy parrot performed slightly better than the 21 undergraduate Harvard students on 12 of the 14 trials. Isn’t that clever!

Midnight Sun

Midnight Sun is the name given to a natural phenomenon that happens in the Arctic and the Antarctic Circle, during which the sun remains visible even at midnight. This is a natural phenomenon that occurs in far northerly latitudes during summer. This is the time when the earth’s axis which is the Arctic region, is tilted more towards the sun. It peaks at the summer solstice, usually around the 21st of June each year.

During the peak time, the sun does move position in the sky, but it does not dip completely below the horizon, which gives an illusion of no sunset at all. Depending on how far north you travel, the period of non-stop daylight can last from a single day to nearly five months. For example, in the town of Ilulissat in Greenland, the midnight sun appears constantly from mid-May to late July.

Apart from the Arctic Circle, one can also get to see the midnight sun in parts of Finland, Sweden, and parts of Iceland and Greenland.
Rohan is missing his best friend Sameer who has moved to a new city.

It's Sameer's birthday next month and Rohan wants to send him a gift. He reads the ‘Gift a Subscription’ option in My Paper.

Rohan asks his mom to call the My Paper office and know the procedure for gifting.

His mom talks to My Paper and sends the subscription money to My Paper’s account. She then messages Sameer’s address to My Paper.

Sameer receives his first copy of My Paper as a gift from Rohan. He is thrilled!!! He calls Rohan to thank him for this gift which he will receive every month for a year.

Rohan is happy that Sameer too can enjoy reading his very own newspaper, My Paper!

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