

Happy  
Teachers' Day!!

September 2008

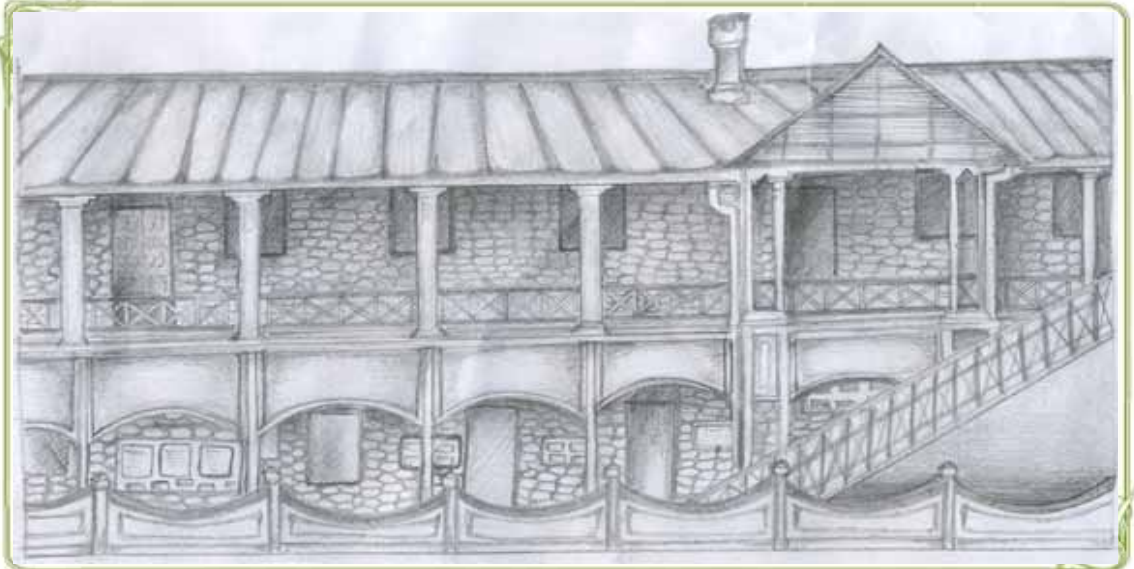


# Excel sior

WYNBERG-ALLEN SCHOOL, MUSSOORIE

## Inside the issue

- The Editorial Board is grateful to our Headmaster for having kindly given his interview. (Pg. 2)
- All the students of Wynberg-Allen School have something to say to their teachers. (Pg. 3,4,5)
- Mr. P. Bhatt (Senior Physics Teacher) has two incredible ideas to share with his students. (Pg.8)
- This time it will be tough to guess the "Osama Bin Laden" look-alike of our school!! (Pg. 9)
- Fill in the fruit names in a crossword. (Pg. 11)
- Try out our new 'Octopus Spellathan'. (Pg. 11)



*Masthead designed by: Farah Aijaz 12C & Gunveer Singh Matharoo 8B*

Dear Readers,

Another term has just flown past ... time, winging by, has quickly brought the Second Terminal Examination to an end. The students are relishing the few moments of leisure before events catch up with us again.

However, the schedule is no less busy regarding the fact that the Marathon and Athletics practices have commenced in full swing. Nevertheless, everyone's minds are on the special day we are to celebrate this week – Teachers' Day! What with the Class 12 students running to and fro from meals to the auditorium, everyone – students and teachers alike – are speculating (students with eagerness and teachers – some of them –with dread !!) as to what is going to be put up for the Special Assembly on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. Well, keep guessing!!

The presence of teachers in one's life is vital. Teachers, who pose as role models in a student's life, play a significant role in moulding the character of a person. They gently breed understanding, sternly teach to accept mistakes and lovingly help a child to evolve. With patient, unselfish ardour, they impart not only bookish knowledge, but also the wisdom of the outside world, the real facts of life. They are the people who accept every child and hold onto his hand, only to let go at the very end, when the child has learnt all that he needs to be taught – when he is ready to venture out alone. Teachers gently urge you forward when the going gets tough – they persistently encourage you to get up after a fall – they make you smile through your tears, and walk right beside you when no one else is around. Teachers are the angels that guard over us.

So, we wish all the teachers a very Happy Teachers' Day!! Mere words can never express our thanks and gratitude to you, yet words are all that we've got...

*Editor-in-chief  
Ankita Rana 12C*

A master can tell you what he expects of you. A teacher, though, awakens your own expectations.



## In conversation with Mr. P. Radcliffe

*Neeraj :* How do you feel on becoming the Headmaster?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* I feel good. I think it is a very challenging job as there is a lot of expectation from the staff as well as students.

*Neeraj :* How would you describe the whole experience till now?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* It has been a very fulfilling as well as a learning experience for me especially in the field of administration and management.

*Neeraj :* Had you ever imagined that you would be the Headmaster? Did you have plans of becoming one?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* Honestly, I had never imagined myself being the Headmaster of Wynberg-Allen School. I did have plans of becoming one in some other institution, though. You know - one has to move ahead.

*Neeraj :* Is there any time you think you'd prefer your old life?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* Yes, I do remember my old life when I am extremely tense. But I have got a solution for that. When I am tense, I want to teach. That makes me forget all the worries arising from work.

*Neeraj :* What is the biggest difference between then and now?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* There is no such difference except in the designation and my house. There is more responsibility and of course more expectation from other members of staff and students.

*Neeraj :* What are the changes you have observed in yourself after becoming Headmaster?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* As far as physical change is concerned, I have lost weight and as it is visible to everyone, my hair too. And of course there is a great change in my schedule.

*Neeraj :* What is the worst aspect of this post?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* The worst aspect is that you cannot please everyone. At times, I have to take a hard decision to maintain discipline and decorum in the school.

*Neeraj :* Being the Headmaster, do you have any plans to bring about any changes in the school?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* I don't think there is any need for any change as everything is in order. Everyone is working well, but this does not mean I am ruling out any kind of change. There is always room for change. If there is any change required, we will definitely make it.


*Neeraj :* So, who do you think is going to win the basketball match on Teachers' Day- students or staff?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* There is no doubt, the teachers are always the winners and I am sure we will be the champions this time too.

*Neeraj :* What would you like to say to the students on this Teachers' Day?

*Mr. Radcliffe :* On this Teachers' Day, I would like to tell the students that always remember what your teachers have done for you. Sometimes the teachers have to be harsh with you to keep you on track, but you should never misunderstand them. They are concerned about you and that is why they check you.

There is no real teacher who in practice does not believe in the existence of the soul, or in a magic that acts on it through speech.


 MESSAGES

**O**ur caring, considerate and kind teachers! This is to tell you how grateful we all are for your teaching and the knowledge you have imparted to us. You have not only given us knowledge but also the wisdom to solve our problems and to make the right choice. You've also helped us in games since education only from books is not everything. We also need some fun and games. When we came to the Senior School and it was our first day here, we were quite alarmed. We were also curious and in a strange way, happy too. When we talked to the teachers we thought they were strict but we slowly realized how helpful they were. Here all the teachers are very helpful and kind and they explain everything very well. We found all of them important in some way or the other.

Class 7A

**D**ear teachers,  
From the bottom of our hearts, we appreciate everything you have done and shared with us. You taught us, helped us in our studies and games and in tasks which seemed to be unachievable. We remember the day, our first day in Senior School. When we were introduced to you, we had many feelings in our hearts – we were scared, curious, determined and even happy. At that time, we were scared of many teachers especially of Ms. Edgar but we later realized that all teachers were trustworthy and special in some way. Some teachers are very practical and humorous too. Here all the teachers are very encouraging and are geniuses in their respective subjects.

Class 7B

**T**he students of Class 8A would like to express to our very considerate, kind and warm-hearted teachers our heartfelt thanks.

The students are very grateful to our teachers for their useful guidance in difficult situations and hard times. The morals, knowledge and wisdom that we have received from our teachers and the love and care shown to us over the past years will always be remembered.

We hope that your wishes and regards are always with us and that you will always be there for us.



Thank You.

Class 8A

**D**ear Teachers,  
Words fail us when it comes to thanking you. Your endless efforts and love has had a far reaching effect on us and will prove to be the greatest help in future. You revealed to us our abilities and have helped us to reach forth towards our destinies. You have tried to be impeccable in every possible way so that you set an example for us. You've always been patient with us and have listened to our problems with attention and concern. There is no artery or vein in our bodies which doesn't carry blood mingled with a current of gratitude.  
Thank You!

TEACHERS - 'T' – Tolerating, 'E' – Energetic, 'A' – Adorable, 'C' – Cheerful, 'H' – Honorable, 'E' – Endeavoring, 'R' – Role models, 'S' – School.

Class 8B

No bubble is so iridescent or floats longer than that blown by the successful teacher.



e, the students of class 9A, would like to show our appreciation to all our teachers who have always guided us in our work and have always been there in times of trouble. We would like to express our debt to our ever so helpful teachers who have always had a solution for every problem of ours.

We are really very sorry for the mischief and all the mistakes that we have committed and we promise that we'll try never to do them again in the future.

When we first came to school, we were scared of you but now that we've been with you for some time, we have realized that how helpful and caring you are and how much we have learnt from you. We appreciate your hard work and the precious time you have spent with us.

*Class 9A*



ear Teachers,

Our hearts filled with gratitude cannot express our feelings through words but we will make a futile attempt to do so. We wish you a very happy and delightful Teachers' Day. We hope that we children can do enough to make this day a memorable one. We appreciate all the hard work and precious time you have put in while working silently behind the scenes for us.

In times of trouble, we have always found you there for us. You have always tried to guide us. We thank you for being our mentor all this while. We cannot imagine our life without your teaching. We were arrogant and ignorant till you lit a lamp of courtesy and education in our lives.

*Class 9B*



e fall short of words as we dedicate our sense of admiration for the unbounded love, the watchful care and the constant nurturing of our teachers. They are gardeners to the seeds that we are and with their lovely wishes, they help us to mature into full splendor and bring out the best in us.

We form innumerable relationships with each other and the bond between a teacher and a student is one of those that lie closest to one's heart. For centuries now, a teacher's upright sense of justice has guided and helped to us not to waver from the right path as we reach out towards our destinies. We can never hope to repay their unblemished love. All we hope to give in return are humble words of appreciation and utmost reverence.

*Class 10A*



It's very unfair to choose one day to appreciate our teachers. If it were possible, we would have celebrated each day as Teachers' Day. God made teachers because He couldn't be everywhere to teach His children.

They teach us, guide us like the North Star, ever shining so that we may sail in the right direction. They provide us with wholesome education. They are like skillful potters moulding us into various shapes, instilling in us every moral value which will make us progress in our lives.

So on this Teachers' Day, I take this opportunity to thank my teachers whose selfless sacrifice and enduring love has made me what I am. The credit of our success belongs only to them. The shining rays of our success glorify their name and I thank them from the bottom of my heart.

*Class 10B*

Diligence is a great teacher.

**D**ear Teachers,

Each one of us has come from a different place, some from far away while others are a stone's throw away. Each of us has joined this school at various levels. We have had our own share of experiences with our teachers, some never to be forgotten and others will always be remembered.

In this life, we cannot shy away from one fact. The main reason why teachers come into our lives is to educate us. They open our eyes to the knowledge of what we are and who made us, the way the world is, the magic behind words and brush strokes and of course many other things like why elephants can't fly and why we have to study – these are only a few of the things that are revealed to us. Thank You!

*Class 11S*

**D**ear Teachers,

Thank you for your immense support and guidance. You have always been there for us. You have taught us so many things along with the knowledge you impart to us in the classroom. We will always be grateful to you and we are sorry for all the times we may have hurt you. All that we are and what we are going to be is just because of you. You have always motivated us to take part in many activities. Thank you for your support and guidance.



*Class 11C*

**D**ear Teachers,

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all that you have done for us. Be it in times of joy or sorrow, you've always been there to share our feelings. You've laughed and cried with us. On this special occasion we would just like to say a simple "thank you", but that you mean the world to us. A "thank you" for holding our tiny fingers in our first year in school, for making us feel so much at home, for going out of your way to help us, for always listening to our trivial problems, for gently chastising us when we were wrong, for patiently overlooking most of our obvious mistakes and defiance, for making school the best place on earth! You will always be treasured by us. Thank you for everything.

*Class 12S*

**D**ear Teachers,

We know there have been times when you hoped you had better students – students who cared a little more. Students who worked harder and students who cooperated. Today, we would like to tell you how much we appreciate everything you have done for us. Right from the valuable lessons you teach to checking to see if one cuff button is open. We know we can never thank you enough for all the time you have spent with us and how much you have inspired us. You gave us a lifetime in twelve years.



*Class 12C*

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.

A THANK YOU

For all the times you have cared  
 For all the times our burdens you shared  
 For all the times when understanding in us you reared-  
 We thank you...  
 For all the times you showed the way  
 For all the times you knew just what to say  
 For all the times brightened our day-  
 We thank you...  
 For all the times you gave good advice  
 For all the times you listened to obvious lies  
 For all the times you didn't press with "how's" and  
 "why's"-  
 We thank you...  
 For all the times you helped set things right  
 For all the times you made dark times bright  
 For all the times your concern never let us out of your  
 sight-  
 We thank you...  
 For the ways you help us our problems to solve,  
 For the ways you always strengthen our resolve  
 For the ways you're helped us beautifully to evolve-  
 We thank you...

*Ankita Rana*  
 12C

*Thank You*

TEACHERS

You held our hands  
 When we first stumbled into our second home  
 You try to pacify our fears.  
 With that reassuring smile of yours  
 You listen to our worries and anxieties  
 Then make us calm with your gentle voice.

You help us cast away our shutters  
 And overcome our initial hesitations.  
 You make learning look so easy  
 Our ambition is to be like you  
 You build the basic foundation of our knowledge.

And whatever we are today is because of you,  
 You make us realize whenever we are wrong,  
 You gently guide us to the right path to walk  
 You may chide or punish us severely  
 But in the end it's for our own well being.

You teach us how to be good individuals  
 And the principles to better the world.  
 Though you don't know us, you make us your own  
 You make this school a most beautiful place.

*Jannat Faiyaz*  
 12S



The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.

TEACHERS

I met you in the classroom  
 You were a stranger to me.  
 When I felt homesick;  
 You consoled me by saying that , "I too feel homesick. "  
 When I was stuck in a Math problem;  
 You explained by saying, "It's easy."  
 When I scored a 'B' grade in any subject,  
 You didn't let me be disappointed,  
 And said, "It's at least better than C and D"  
 When I didn't reach the finish line;  
 You still cheered for me.  
 When I had a bad day with my friends;  
 You said to me, "I will always be your friend. "  
 You were unknown to me.  
 But now, teacher, you are my inspiration.

*Anisha Tamrakar*  
 11C

TREMBLING SOULS

Trembling souls, entering a new realm  
 Filled with apprehension, scared to look ahead  
 You soothe our soul, with calming syllables  
 You make us feel at home with your love.  
 Stuck in a dilemma, nowhere to go,  
 You pull us through, make the path clear  
 Lost in a predicament, don't know what to do?  
 You're the light that shines the path unknown.  
 You teach us things that are secret to us  
 Bewildered we may be, yet you're patient with us,  
 It's a wonder to have people like you in our lives  
 Our souls are brimming with gratitude to all of you!

*Anchali Singh*  
 11C

TEACHERS

My weak and youthful dreams were almost destroyed.  
 They remained as I had envisioned them long ago.  
 Before I realize it my heart spent its fire.  
 Yes, over time, I have come to terms with grief and reality.  
 Even if I was hurt, even if I cried, even if I fell apart, you  
 were always with me.  
 There's a stage that glimmers with blue light  
 And if I have taken my first step up to it.  
 I'll take my story that I timidly opened up to you  
 And change it into an endless vow  
 For now, please continue to watch over me.  
 As you are my guardian angel,  
 Thank you teachers for all you have done  
 Being with you is so much fun.

*Sushant Kalra*  
 9B

A MEANINGFUL NOTE OF THANKS

A joystick in our lives,  
 Your guidance,  
 A remote control in our lives  
 When we go overboard  
 Or when we are depressed  
 To keep us in control  
 Or make us happy.  
 Thank you, for giving us so much of your lives  
 Teaching ungrateful children  
 Who will definitely be grateful some day  
 When they learn to appreciate hard work,  
 Love, kindness, support and positive hopes.  
 When they understand anger, irritation, frustration and grief  
 To cut a long story short,  
 You are too good for words.  
 All of us can only and only say,  
 Thank you!

*Mahika Banerjee,9B*

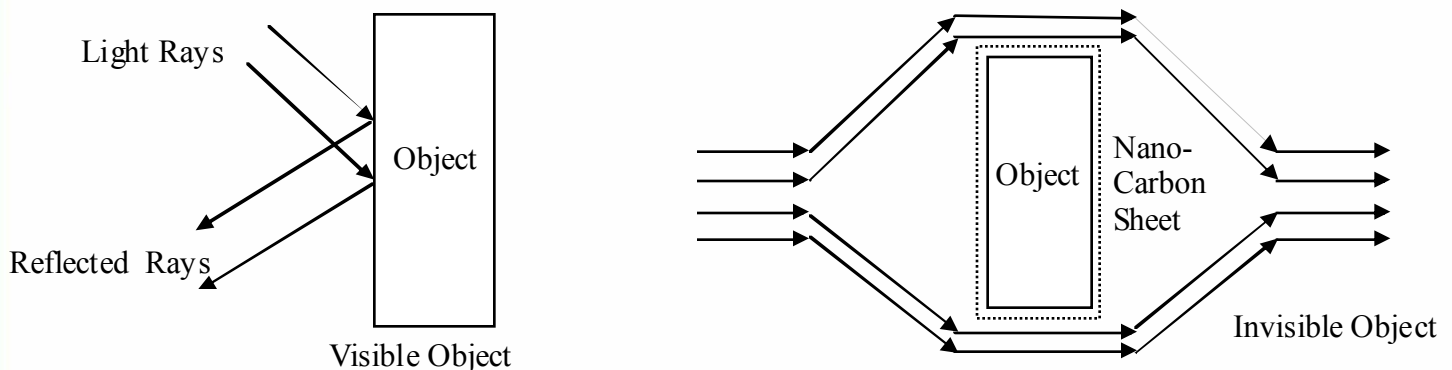
Teaching is not a lost art, but the regards for it is a lost tradition.

Mr. P.Bhatt wants to share some incredible ideas with his students!!!

## One can be invisible, Believe it or not!!!

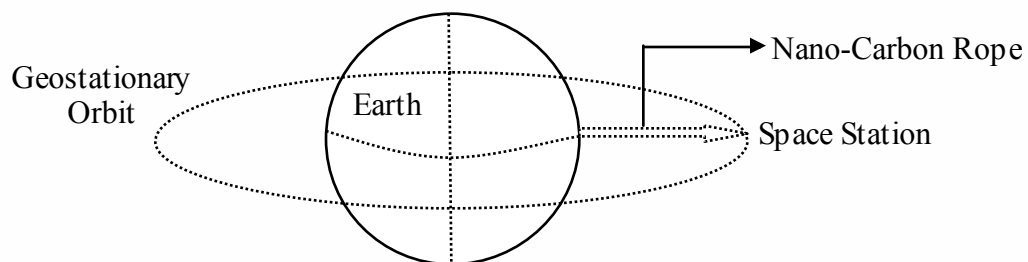
Nano-carbon is a unique material made of carbon compounds bonded at molecular stage. It has unique properties of strength and electrical conductivities. A single chain of nano-carbon tube is the strongest material known on earth. The resistance of a nano-carbon tube varies with thickness. A nano-carbon tube at different thickness can work as insulator, semi-conductor, good conductor or even as a superconductor. Here I will discuss two uses of a nano-carbon tube.

1. **Nano-carbon as an invisible sheet:** The idea of invisibility in near future will soon be a reality. We all know that when light rays reflect away from any object it becomes visible. However, a sheet of nano-carbon has unique property of deviating the light rays. The light rays go around this sheet and thus make the object visible.



## Magnificent Nano-Carbon

2. **Nano-carbon as space elevator rope:** We know that when a spacecraft goes into space, 90% of its energy is wasted in lifting it through the atmosphere of earth. The scientists now are planning to make a long rope of length 36000 km with its one end anywhere on the equator and the other end in the space. An elevator will take astronauts into space via this giant cable. You must understand the fact that any object at this height appears stationary from the earth. Also the mass of space station will provide the necessary centripetal force to keep this rope taut. Nano-carbon due to its enormous strength is the right material to make such a rope.



Space Station Fixed In Geostationary Orbit

Teaching is the greatest act of optimism.



## How well do you know your teachers

### Teacher 1:

*Teenage fear-* Biology and Geography

*Favourite dialogue-* Jab hum chalen to saya bhi na apna sath de, jab tum chalo to zameen chale, aasmaan chale.

*Favourite song-* Main zindagee kaa saath nibhataa chala gaya.

*Dream destination-* France.

*Self description in two words-* Imaginative rationalist.

*Other career desire-* Civil services.

*One day personality makeover-* C.B.I Director, so that I can effectively tackle the unresolved cases.

*Secret desire -* To maintain perfect silence for one month.

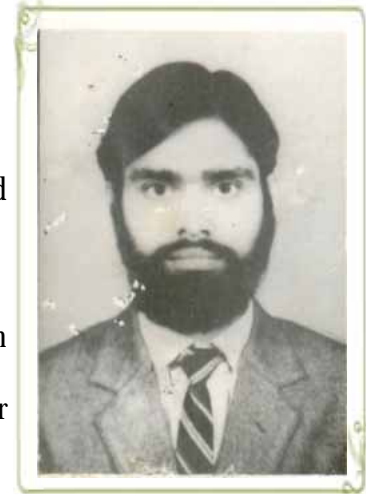
*Most prized possession-* My son.

*Most memorable incident-* Once I was saved from drowning after which I decided to learn swimming.

*What would you do with a million dollars?-* I would like to establish a research institute for advanced studies in Physics and Mathematics.

*Rapid fire:*

- (a) Hema Malini or Aishwarya Rai?  
-Hema Malini
- (b) Rock or pop?  
-Rock.



**MOST WANTED**  
teacher!!!

### Teacher 2:

*Teenage fear -* Lizards! They are too creepy.

*Favourite dialogue -* Let your life lightly dance on the edges of Time, like dew on the tip of a leaf.

*Favourite song -* Saaiyan by Kailash Kher, When You Love Someone by Bryan Adams

*Dream Destination -* Egypt

*Self description in two words -* Too cool!

*Other career desire -* Journalist or Animator

*One day personality makeover -* I am what I am. Why change?

*Favourite pastime -* Drawing, Dancing, Writing

*Secret desire -* Too secret to be disclosed!

*Most prized possession -* My books

*Most memorable desire -* To be the owner of the 101 Dalmations

*What would you do with a million dollars -* I would open a veterinary hospital for stray animals.

*Lesser known facts -* I love fairy tales and love watching cartoons.

*Rapid fire:*

- Rock or Pop  
- Rock



**LOST IN**  
**WONDERLAND!!!**

Teachers open the door, but you must enter by yourself.



## Common Sayings Unscrambler

### Instructions

The following phrases or sentences are common sayings, which are missing the last word. The letters in the words have been scrambled, although the order of the words has not. The object of the quiz is to decipher the scrambled saying, then select from the answer options the word which is missing.

1. 'ndo tcu fof uryo sone ot epist uroy...

- honesty       promise       child       face

2. ot etihn onw fesl eb...

- wisdom       honest       true       short

3. a dirb ni hte danh si hrwto wot ni eth...

- bag       tree       bush       shoot

4. kyemon ese, nmoeyk...

- broth       get       do       wish

5. kpase tloyfs dan rayrc a gib...

- stick       present       ball       honesty



## Hidden Word

### Instructions

Hidden in each sentence is a word belonging to one of the categories listed. Find the hidden word, and identify the category to which it belongs.

1. The pet store owner had seen Pavlov a lot of times.

- texture       shape       size

2. When you are through with washing the dishes, you may go and play.

- natural phenomenon       food       texture

3. We found the cup and saucer, both under the bed.

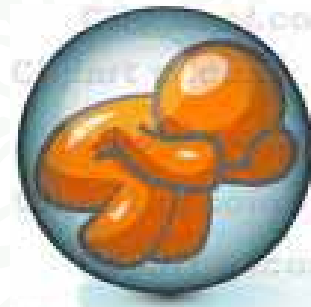
- natural phenomenon       tree       colour

4. Mary buys Tom a cherry sundae.

- body part       clothing       flower

5. I agree not to eat all the cookies.

- colour       texture       sport



Experience is a good teacher, but she sends in terrific bills.

Put all the fruit names below back in the right boxes.

APRICOT  
AVOCADO  
BANANA  
CHERRY  
DATE  
FIG  
GRANADILLA  
GRAPE

LEMON  
LIME  
LYCHEE  
MANGO  
MELON  
MULBERRY  
NECTARINE  
OLIVE

ORANGE  
PEAR  
PINEAPPLE  
PLUM  
TANGERINE  
WATERMELON

SPELLATHON

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in this puzzle? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed.

The entry with the highest number of correct answers will win a special prize. ☺

I am indebted to my father for living, but for my teacher for living well.

-Alexander the Great

4					5			
	8	5	1					4
1	6		7	2				
		8	2	5				
9								2
				6	3	4		
				9	7		4	6
7					2	3	8	
			3					9

SUDOKU

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digits. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief : Neeraj Agrawal  
 Jannat Faiyaz  
 Ankita Rana

Assistant Editors : Ahmed Maqsood Khan  
 Pratikchha Bacchar  
 Nishi Baranwal  
 Kalsang Yangzom  
 Karishma Khanna  
 Pritha Dutta  
 Surbhi Gloria Singh  
 Diwank Singh Tomer  
 Aradhanayan Tiwari

Art Section: Farah Aijaz



The Editorial Board would also like to express its heartfelt gratitude to all our teachers for everything they have done for us.

I cannot teach anybody anything, I can only make them think.

-Socrates