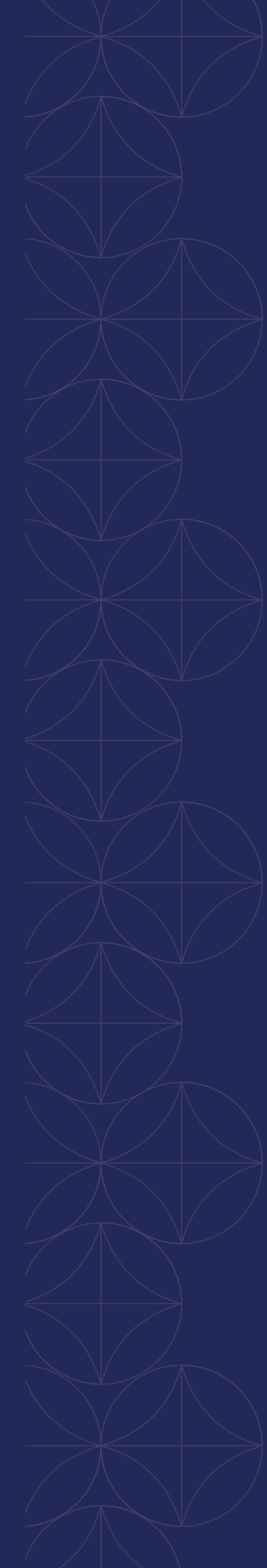




OUR
LOCKDOWN
STORIES



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

At Sree Vidyanikethan International School (SVIS), we believe that a teacher can provide a creative learning environment that encourages children to bring out the best in themselves and enables their all-round development through engaging learning process that imbibes necessary life skills and embraces diversity.

When the pandemic hit us, the teachers faced a daunting task. Going to a movie, stepping out for shopping, taking a vacation or attending a relative's wedding seen as normal outing a few months ago suddenly seemed to be a dream. Few could have envisaged a situation where we would have been compulsorily locked up at home! It appeared as if the world had come crashing down before us.

With schools shut down, children suddenly found themselves cut off from their friends and teachers.

We started wondering what to do next. At SVIS, the teachers knew that boredom was hitting children hard. They thought- "How

to help students overcome this boredom and spend time purposefully without losing enthusiasm?"

"Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging".

This quote by Joseph Campbell encouraged us to turn the crisis into an opportunity to discover our interests and passion. The teachers and the students worked together during this pandemic to ensure the time was spent well in meaningful pursuits.

I invite you to explore and know more about how our students created their own success stories during the pandemic and lockdown. If you have a similar story please share with us at contact@vidyanikethan.edu


Dr. M. Mohan Babu



WHEN THE WORLD TOOK A PAUSE

MAR 23, 2021 | Hindustan Times

Covid-19 2nd peak: As daily cases rise, what Centre says on lockdown



May 9, 2021 | BusinessToday.In

COVID-19 second wave: Most of India should be under lockdown for 6-8 weeks, says ICMR head



19 April | BBC NEWS

India Covid: Opposition calls for full national lockdown



June 18, 2021 | INDIA TV

COVID curfew extended in Andhra Pradesh till June 30



24 Mar 2020 | THE ECONOMIC TIMES

On March 24th, 2020, India went under a complete lockdown

First lockdown announced

On March 24, 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for a complete lockdown of the nation for 21 days in an effort to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. In a televised address to the nation, the PM said that even though the best medical facilities could not contain the virus, social distancing is the only way to mitigate it. He said this was taken from the experiences of health sector experts and other countries that 21 days is essential to the chain of infection.



19 April | BBC NEWS

Covid: Delhi announces lockdown as India's cases surge



June 18, 2021 | INDIA TV

COVID curfew extended in Andhra Pradesh till June 30



24 Mar 2020 | THE HINDU

PM Modi announces 21-day lockdown as COVID-19 toll touches 12



24 Mar 2020 | Firstpost

PM Narendra Modi announces a national lockdown for 21 days starting midnight of 24-25 March




May 9, 2021 | The Indian EXPRESS

Covid-19 second wave: Here's a list of states that have imposed full lockdown



July 13, 2021 | india.com

Andhra Pradesh Lockdown Extended Till June 30 With Relaxation in Timings. Check Covid-19 Guidelines Here



WE TURNED IT INTO POSSIBILITIES

The lockdown did not dampen our love for learning. The students braved challenges to learn new skills, find new avenues to showcase their talent and made memories with their loved ones.

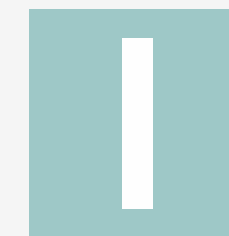
Our passionate teachers too continued to enrich their knowledge and made sure that they unlocked new possibilities without a pause.

Presenting to you our unique lockdown stories that showcase how our teachers and students did not let learning stop, even when the world did.



UNLOCKING GARDENING AS MY HOBBY

C. BHAVANA
Class 9



It was at the end of December when I first heard about a corona case found in Wuhan, China. At that time I had no idea that it could spread so wide and take away the lives of millions of people around the world. The Government of India declared a curfew on 22nd March 2020. For the first time, we had to stay at home without going out. All educational institutions, shopping malls, theatres, had been closed. Immediately, after the curfew, the government of almost all states announced a complete lockdown. Initially, I was happy that now I don't need to go to school but after a few days, it was boring to stay at home.

To make myself busy, I started growing plants in my backyard. I also started crafts and decorated my home, while being stuck up at home, I couldn't play with my friends but I enjoyed a great time with my parents. I also helped my mother in the kitchen and also with daily chores as I had a lot of time. I

also learned a few recipes, read storybooks which helped me in improving my communication skills.

Soon our school started online classes. Initially, I faced a little inconvenience as it was the first time I attended classes through zoom. Gradually, I got used to online classes. When covid cases in India started falling down, people got relief from corona. Our school reopened and I had to go to school, but everything was new, masks became a part of our lives. After a few months, corona again gained its strength and took many lives. And again, a lockdown was announced. I didn't expect this, I was busy with my online classes but felt sad to see many people losing their lives due to corona. It is our responsibility to be safe and also protect others by social distancing, frequently sanitizing the hands and using face masks. Hope we come out of this situation and everything becomes better.

HELPED PEOPLE IN DISTRESS



nitially, the lockdown was very boring. Slowly I got used to it. I tried cooking with the help of my

mother. My mom taught me many new recipes like fried rice, omelette, chicken fry, potato curry, dosa etc.

My mother also taught me how to make chocolates at home, I love chocolates but I was sad because I couldn't share them with my friends and teachers. Apart from cooking, I also played badminton with my uncle in the evening.

During the lockdown, the one thing I enjoyed the most was helping my mom, in the food distribution to the needy program, which was conducted by her. I used to help her in washing the vegetables, packing the food etc. Along with my mom, we all fed more than 250 people daily for over 48 days in the year 2020 and this program was continued during the second lockdown. I really like helping others. In this way, I enjoyed my time during the lockdown which helped me to learn many new things.



**P. CHETAN
SAI RAMAN**
Class 4

ENJOYED NEW GAMES



ockdown taught me so many things. One of the major things I learned from lockdown was that being at home is not

as boring as I thought it could be. During this lockdown, I developed my reading skills. I went straight to my book stack and picked one book and started reading. I installed many online television platforms for

watching movies and series. I also learnt drawing and crafts. I really missed my school days and friends during this lockdown. I played online Ludo with my friends and we enjoyed ourselves a lot. I also learnt to cook some things and helped my mother with her work. I also got to spend more time with my parents. All these things kept me engaged during the lockdown without getting bored. I enjoyed my lockdown period very much.



DIPSIKA KAR
Class 4

FROM BOREDOM TO LEARNING NEW ACTIVITIES

**KETHAVATH
ADITI SRIVATSA**
Class 5



A

s Corona cases were going up in April 2021, our school was shut for summer vacation from the 23rd of April.

Although the school was closed for summer vacation, we understood that we would not come back to our beloved school campus very soon.

During the pandemic, my parents never allowed me and my brother to go out to play. Last year when the circumstances were the same, we used to play in the parking area of our house, but this time my parents were more strict. Both of my parents are working, so after they left, I was very bored during the lockdown. So I started reading storybooks like Ramayana, Mahabharata.

After reading books, my brother and I started making short movies. Slowly, I

started learning acting and my brother learnt to edit short movies. He also directed the short movies. We made two short movies. In one of the movies, I played the main role and my brother acted as a villain.

I also tried my hands in art and craft in which I made stone tools of early humans. In our family, we all play carrom and through this, I was able to master it. I am also learning some household chores like cleaning the house and cooking and sometimes I help my mother in preparing Gulabjamun.

In the evening, I like to observe flowers like hibiscus and periwinkle in and around our house. I have now learnt some computer functions like MS word. Although the lockdown was very hard for us, we learned so many new activities, we also felt very close to our family.

HELPED OTHERS IN NEED

It was a sunny day and I woke up at 7:00 AM and was drowsy, then I started brushing and getting ready. By then it was 7:45 AM, but my parents were not ready yet. I said to my parents that they should get ready. They asked me why we should get ready so early? I said " Don't you know today is a holiday and we have to go outside?" Then they said " it is a lockdown and we cannot go outside." I asked them why. They said, "it is for our safety and for other people's safety. So, no outing, go to your room and play carrom- board or chess or snake and ladders." No, I cannot bear the boredom without going outside. My parents told me that it will only be for a month so wait till the lockdown is over.

AFTER A MONTH

"MOMMY, why are you always telling lies to me? " I said. "What lies did I tell you?" my mother asked. " You said that the lockdown will be over in a month, so why is it still going on? "

The lockdown was extended for 3 more months. The same thing was said to me for an entire year. 2020 passed and 2021 was given a welcome but corona was not over. But then a miracle happened. I got a message from SVIS. My school is going to reopen, I was very happy about it.

Now I won't get bored, I can go to school and meet my friends.

THE HAPPINESS EXTENDED FOR 3 MONTHS AND THEN A NIGHTMARE OCCURRED.

[NEWS: SCHOOLS ARE NOW CLOSED FOR 2 MORE MONTHS AND IT HAS A CHANCE TO EXTEND FOR 3 MORE MONTHS. STAY HOME AND STAY SAFE]

WHAT! WHAT IS HAPPENING! THIS CORONA IS MAKING FUN OF ME AND MAKING ME ANGRY!

During this lockdown, I learned drawing and crafts. Watched serials and movies. I loved the movie Master by Vijay Thalapathy. I learned how to make a kiddy bank and I also made dresses for my Barbie etc. After some time, my online exams started and I was tense, I prepared very hard. After 10 days, my exams were over and I was happy.

I also started drinking ragi malt. One day I saw a street dog lying on the ground starving with hunger. I fed him with some food left in our house and I called him Harry Potter. We should help everyone who is in need so that in the time when you need help they will help you. I started chatting on WhatsApp with my family members and friends. And I loved doing craft and drawing. I did many wonderful things, learned new things.



SAI JIGNASA
Class 5



ENJOYED PAINTING AND SWIMMING

I love painting the most so I decided to make one amazing picture and showed it to my parents. They appreciated me and then I drew lots of other paintings and kept them safe in a cover. My mother gave me a difficult picture to draw. I drew it perfectly and when my mother saw that painting, she decided to put it on the wall. My father bought some pictures and colour pencils for me and I made a painting for him on which I wrote thank you, daddy. One day, after the online classes

my friend asked me, why don't you post some pictures of your paintings on Facebook, so I said yes and I asked her how I can post them. My friend gave me all the instructions on how to post some pictures. I posted my painting picture and for that post, I got 100 likes. I enjoyed playing with my puppy chotu every day. I went to my grandparents' home, and we ate healthy seasonal fruits like mangoes, muskmelon etc. I went to my father's village where I enjoyed a full month doing art and craft and also went to the big well and practiced how to swim and finally, I learned how to swim.

M L HASINI
Class 5



ENJOYED MY LEISURE TIME

I n the lockdown I found my happiness by doing many activities like Art and Craft, Cycling, Typewriting and cooking.

Every day I used to make decor for my house which made my place look beautiful and I learnt little things to cook for the breakfast like upma and Dosa. I felt happy for these things in the first lockdown and later on I got a new sports cycle and practiced it for few days and then I completely mastered it. After a few days I joined the typewriting institute which is near my house, so that did not trouble me at all. I completed a full book course for beginners

and stopped after it, because the pandemic had increased and my parents did not allow me to go, but still I was practising it on My PC which was helpful for my online class. Cycling was the best part of the lock down and I did it independently without any help. I gave my best in everything, which made me and my family happy.

Recently, I have opened a You Tube Channel - Prothsahini Education Studio which is based on basic Mathematics, computer and few tricks. Here also I gave my best and till now I have uploaded 20 videos and I was successful in my effort. I have used my Lockdown time for my development in every activity.

N. PROTHSAHINI
Class 5



TURNED MY DREAM HOME TO A REALITY

M SUSHAMA REDDY
English Teacher



L

ockdown' has created a huge impact on human lives. It can neither be termed positive nor negative for people around the world, but for me it was a great time. It sounds strange to my dear readers, but 'Yes!' That's my perception as most of the people spent their precious time with their family with untiring play, eating together, watching movies of their taste and sleeping with laughter. Narrating stories of their childhood. Fortunately, many had a great time and unfortunately some lost their dear ones.

Touch wood!! God should bestow his blessings on everyone. My life was different during lockdown. I always aspired for a dream house. Time was something I could never find in my dictionary, but this lockdown helped me a lot. I spent my valuable time building my 'Dream House'. I had ample time

to take care of it during the pandemic. There is a quote saying 'SUCCESS BEGINS WITH A SMALL STEP OF HARDWORK'. Our family worked hard to accomplish it and my happiness knew no bounds when we could see our dream house come true. We were overwhelmed to have such a beautiful and lovely duplex house.

Next, we shifted to our new house. I have a passion for plants and I could not fulfil it in a rented house. So, I started planning for a garden and within no time I could create a garden which had flowering plants, vegetables, fruits, crotons etc. I love plants because of the greenery and the tenderness of their leaves. The blooming of flowers, the pleasant aroma while we sit around to have a cup of tea - really feels awesome. Finally, this pandemic helped me in making my dream come true.



ENJOYED VIDEO EDITING WITH MY SISTER

**KETHAVATH
ADITYA SRIVATSA**
Class 7

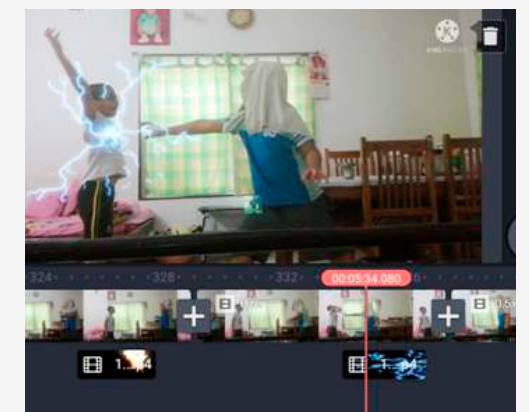
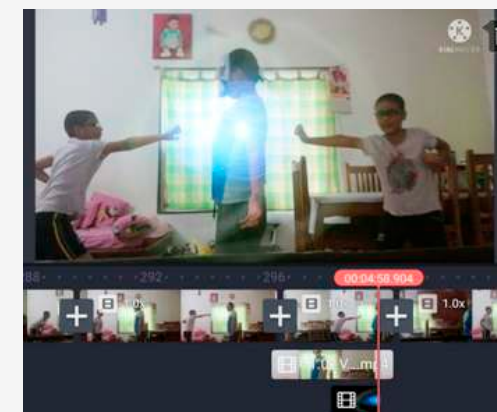


Our school declared summer holidays from 23.04.2021. All the students left the hostel but me and my sister were the only ones left. Many states of India declared lockdown; hence my father could not come to the school on 23rd April to take us home. In this lockdown, we got stuck in the school hostel.

In the school hostel, to kill our boredom our housemaster took us to the library where I read lots of books. On the third day, when our father arrived and we were going to the airport, we decided to have lunch in between but that time no hotel or restaurant was open. At the airport, there were only a few passengers, wearing masks and shields.

Before getting into the aeroplane they checked our temperature. When the plane arrived in Gujarat and we went inside the taxi there were fewer people as compared to earlier roaming around the street. When we reached home, we had lots of free time so my sister and I decided to watch television, we played indoor games like carrom, chess, Beyblade etc.

When our school arranged an online summer camp that any school's student can attend, I told this to my old school's friend. He told me that he will attend it with me. After summer camp ended I started learning video editing by myself, it took me a while to learn it but after learning it, my sister and I started making short movies for our parents.



LEARNT CHESS GARDENING

How was your lockdown? My lockdown was completely filled with amusement. But can you guess the one and only sad thing about my lockdown? The saddest part was, I used to miss many people. Do you know I was locked before the lockdown; the reason was, I was always alone at home because I don't have any brother or sister to play with! My parents were busy with their work. I tried to get rid of this boredom with some fun activities and games. I always prayed to God that no one should get my fate (life without a sibling). I always felt unlucky, especially in lockdown. But the other people—my friends, my teachers, my neighbours and so on, always encouraged me with a different set of words that I was lucky to be alone, peaceful, and free. But in this lockdown, I don't have anyone to encourage me. Then, I promised myself that "I can live my life without a sibling". That made me confident again.

When days passed, it was time for my studies

(online classes). I was in 6th class at the time of lockdown. Some of the teachers were new to me, but they had understood me and I also got a chance to know them. I had full session classes every day except Sunday (my favourite day). I don't know why, but I love to be lazy only on Sundays. Some teachers always test us (our class) even during the holidays, they gave us lots of homework.

Finally, it was time for my examinations. I have gained some knowledge through online classes. Of course, the exams were easy and I got great marks. And after that, with our good luck, the cases slowly started decreasing and my temple was re-opened! Oh sorry, here 'temple' means my school. I learnt many new things in lockdown. I learnt gardening, fast typing and also gained knowledge of chess through my father. My mother was encouraging me for my examinations and I wrote the exams well and she taught me different kinds of things like cooking.



GUNA SREE
Class 7

TURNED WASTE INTO BEAUTIFUL ART

MOHNISH
Class 7



I was irritated and bored during this lockdown, due to Covid 19. Schools, malls, playgrounds - everything was shut and we were not allowed to even step out of our house or even balcony. Due to the lockdown, we were locked in our homes, and we couldn't enjoy our summer vacations as we used to do earlier.

During this pandemic situation, I spent most of my time with my parents, younger sister, and my elder cousins at my home. To beat my boredom, I started investing my leisure time in art and craft skills, started reading many books, and also developed an interest in gardening. I also made an effort to improve my computer skills. But, of all the things, I loved spending most of my time on art and craft making. I collected waste papers, covers and some old cardboard etc and made beautiful crafts out of it.

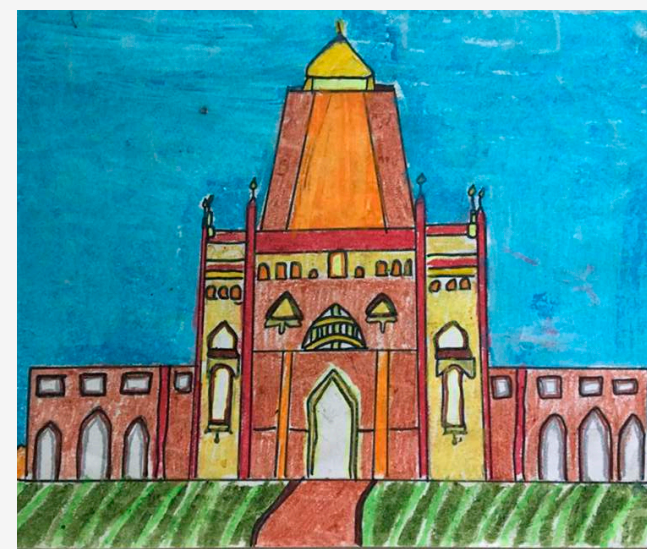
I also borrowed a few old art sets and books, paints and crayons from my neighbour who is also an inspiration to me. I created many artworks (21 pieces of artwork) and crafts (18 crafts) with the things around me, making the best out of the waste.

As the lockdown days progressed, one fine day we got a notice from my school stating, online classes would commence from April 28th 2020. It was my first experience of attending a virtual class. It was a new learning

experience, I got to see my teachers and classmates after a long time, though it was virtual. We discussed many new things, cracked jokes on one another. Learning was fun although it was a little challenging to adapt this new method of online schooling. However, finally, we completed one academic year and I was promoted to class 7 with good scores.

Now it was my second summer vacation during this pandemic. Packing our things, we set off to our home town one early morning. I was excited to meet my grandparents after a long time. Due to the 2nd wave, we had another online academic year. I attended my online classes from a small village in my home town. I spent my leisure time, talking to my grandparents, and strolling through the fields, watering the plants and taking care of them. This time, I was more interested in gardening than before, I learnt how to grow plants and take care of them and also started to learn more about plants, researching about them.

Days passed quickly. We returned home after spending some quality time with my grandparents. Following my usual lockdown days routine - attending online classes, playing, making crafts and so on. This was my lockdown story.



CREATED ART AND GREW MY KITCHEN GARDEN

T

he lockdown was very unfortunate, but it helped me a lot in my daily activities. Before lockdown, I was busy going to school and completing my home work etc. So, I couldn't spend much time with my parents. Therefore, with the lockdown, I got an opportunity to spend time with my parents. In the lockdown I was bored and one day, I got an idea and thought why couldn't I spend my time doing art, instead of wasting time. Hence, I spent most of my free time in art. Sometimes I played board games, indoor and outdoor games etc. with my friend. I also spent some time reading books before going to bed, writing my diary every day and helping my parents in their

work. My school gave me an opportunity to learn a lot through online classes and conducted so many activities and exams which were interesting.

In the second round of lockdown, I visited my grandparents and relative's house. I spent my leisure time going for a walk into the fields and tasted different kinds of fruits like mango, papaya and custard apple. This time, we went out for trekking to the nearby hill of my village and found different types of plants like mimosa and some medicinal plants like neem, marigold, lavender etc. After returning home, I learnt about terrace farming and also tried planting coriander leaves, mint leaves and onions. After all, it has been a wonderful lockdown for me.



GURU PRANAV
Class 8

STARTED MY OWN YOUTUBE CHANNEL

I

n the boring lockdown, my daily routine was to get up at 7:00 a.m., take a bath, have breakfast, attend online classes, and have lazy lunch. It was routine and I felt bored. Due to the lockdown, I could not step out of my house as the cases were increasing day by day. It was a horrible sight to listen and watch news about the sufferings of the people due to COVID and unfortunately many of them had to leave the earth. It was really painful for me.

I felt bored and in order to divert my mind, I started playing keyboard with my brother. This was very exciting and refreshing to me. Slowly,

I developed a passion towards playing and this helped me to create and start my new channel called 'Youthful Yashitha'. I wanted to exhibit and showcase my talent to the people in the world. Seeing this, my relatives and friends supported me and they watched the video and appreciated me. I was overwhelmed by their response and felt I was on cloud nine.

Apart from this, I developed a love for nature. I started planting a few saplings in my apartment which helped me to be busy during this lockdown. Finally, my boring lockdown had become my favorite lockdown.



K YASHITHA
Class 8

UNLOCKED MY PASSION FOR CRICKET

Before the lockdown my life was happy and busy, but the pandemic changed everything. I changed the school and we had online classes in lockdown and I had no friends to help me in any subject. I struggled a lot and I missed my old friends badly. We used to play together happily. But now I can't even step out of my house and the only thing I could do was playing with my sister and listening to online classes. Finally I felt bored with this life and I got an idea. I started learning cricket. I developed my passion towards cricket after learning it. I felt very happy while playing cricket, and was not bored anymore. During this lockdown I learned cricket and realized the value of people and things. Finally, my school started and again it was a busy life with new friends, new campus and new teachers. This lockdown has given me an opportunity to spend quality time with my family.



**D TEJESWAR
REDDY**
Class 8

BEGAN APPRECIATING SMALL THINGS IN LIFE

As I wake up every morning, I check the number of positive cases. While it is no surprise of how haunting the numbers look, I still declare them at home only to see the worry and fear drawn on everyone's faces. If you had offered me to learn via online classes, binge-read books and binge-watch on Netflix, spend time with family and game nights with friends, I would have taken that instantly. However, experiencing the lockdown life, I realize the importance of social interaction, after all it is what makes us human.

I have begun to miss the ordinary realities of the pre-COVID-19 world, which now feel so much more than a fantasy. Having plenty of time to myself has led me down the unending road of introspection. I have begun to realize the flaws in the life I lived pre-COVID. I can say that this introspection has given me a fresh perspective from being boxed inside.

Amidst a falling economy, humanitarian crisis, earthquakes, fires, locust swarms, violence, protests, brutality, the list goes on...I still find myself to sit and enjoy things that have been happening all along all around me and that I have been remote to. As I look outside, I see a quiet road and a boy feeding stray

dogs under the scorching sun. I look at my parents bickering about working from home as they never leave an opportunity to remind me to wash my hands with soap. The lockdown lifestyle has taught me to appreciate the small things in life.

I have gained huge admiration for my mother who is tolerating two grown up adults and their tantrums despite her busy zoom meetings. However, I do my best to give her a hand to reduce her work at home.

As selfish as it sounds, the increasing number of positive cases seemed to become a statistic until a life expired right in front of me. I learnt that death is inevitable, be it at the hands of a virus or not and it is okay to bask in the sadness of all that is happening around you but at the same time hang on to hope, love, and the future we all are striving towards.



Y YOGESH
Class 8

TREASURING MEMORIES OF THE DEAR DEPARTED

W

hat is Life?? Is it a bed of roses or a trail of thorns; a path set by our elders or a mysterious path known to none? This is a million dollar question

and the quest to find the answer is still on...

I have seen, heard and probably experienced many disasters in the years bygone. Some heart wrenching and some terrifying, but at the end I could take a sigh of relief. I could breathe fresh air, quench my thirst, eat to live and sleep at peace. I could do all of these things. Yes, I could!!

But now, can I?

Can I breathe fresh air? Air, which once was pure and rejuvenating – unmasked.

Can I quench my thirst? Thirst, which once was due to fatigue and not due to one's pain.

Can I sleep peacefully? Sleep, which once gave a hope to arise the next morning.

Life has shattered into pieces in an unpredictable way. Never thought and dreamt that we would have to fight an enemy that is the minutest, invisible but devastating by nature – crumbling lives – bodies – minds and the whole world.

Losing my near and dear ones is such a pain. More painful is the reason for their departure from earth. Most painful is the agonizing truth that I could not have a glimpse of them before their final departure.

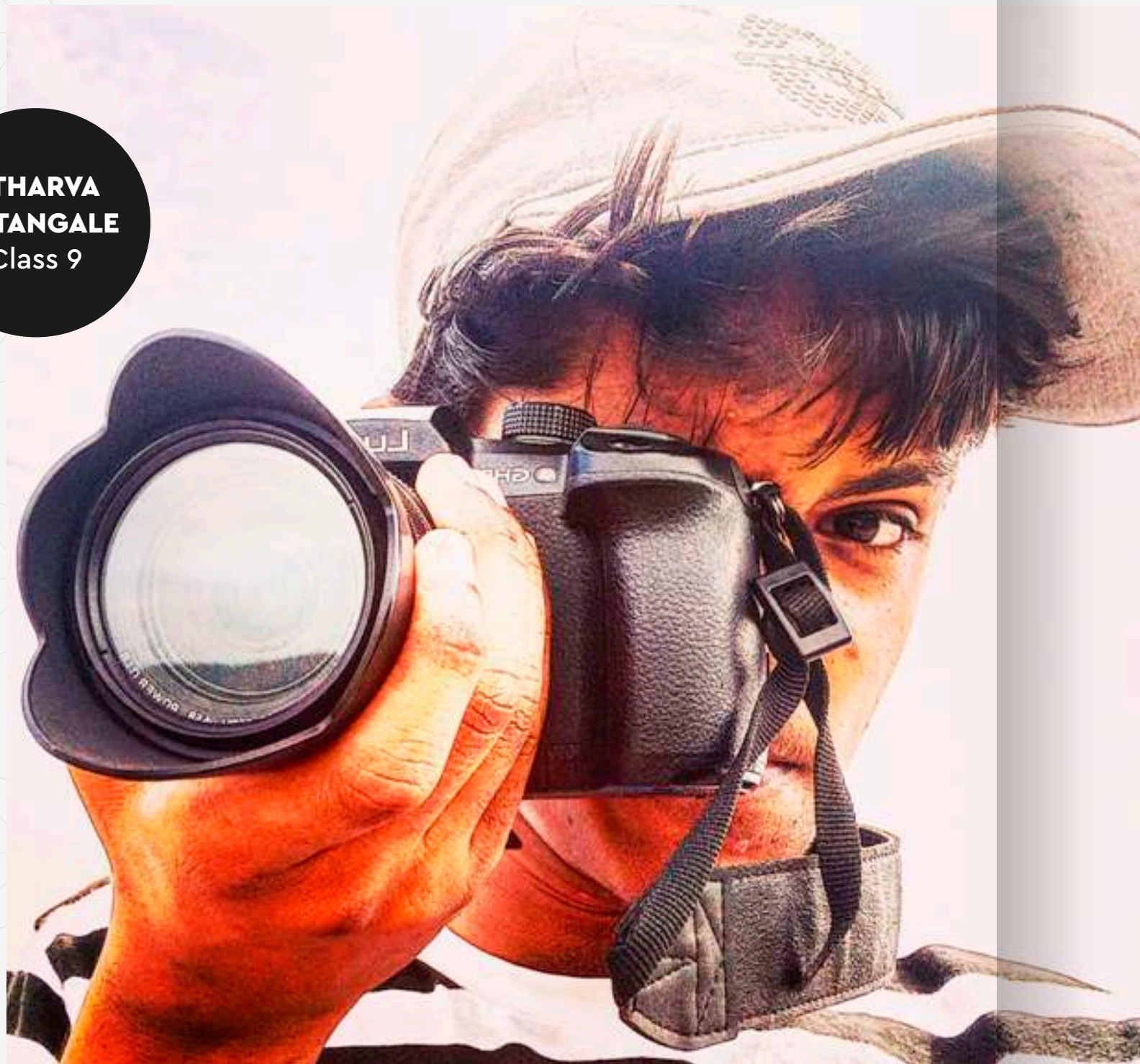
Pandemic has traumatized families and lives. It has left a never healing wound in my heart. No masks, sanitizer or distance could help my dear departed. And I am left all alone with the memories of the yesteryears which has given me a reason to live. Miss you all, though you are in my heart forever!!



**ARCHANAA
K JAYACHANDRA**
English
Teacher

MADE VIDEOS AND BAGGED MY FIRST ACTING ROLE

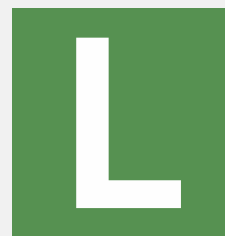
**ATHARVA
KOTANGALE**
Class 9



Everything in this world was shut down during the lockdown. Cakes baked more inside the house rather than in bakeries. The delicious pani puri was remembered a lot. Thanks to companies like Idea, Jio and Reliance, we were provided internet connection to my zoom classes. So how was this lockdown a helpful one for me? The story started when the Prime Minister announced in March 2020 that there will be a lockdown from the next day onwards. It felt like the roller coaster of my life suddenly jumped down from the clouds. All were in a grieving mood. I added new words in my vocabulary. Those were quarantine, curfew, lockdown and COVID. I was bored and thought of making an Instagram account. I posted some pics and got a lot of my friends there. People were following a trend and that was making videos. In today's generation making a video and posting it is such an easy job. So, I thought to give it a try. Some people made videos on travel, food, fashion etc. Many people made videos which had controversial themes. So, I thought about making videos on travel and controversy and started earning some amount of money. At first when I uploaded a video on the topic "Don't open the schools and institutions", my friends supported the video but I had not many views, rather just below 200 views. But they say if you are regular to the classes, you will be able to learn easily. I did the same thing. I was a regular on Instagram and made

a lot of travel videos in the form of reels. It was fun to make these videos and people started going through my Instagram page and started liking my content. **My first reel was viewed by almost 900 people.** I was shocked. And then I didn't stop my journey there. I worked day and night for just 30 second videos. I started earning by editing videos of lots of people. **My first earning was 2000 rupees.** But I knew this was not my age to earn money. Still, I didn't give up. I moved on to making great videos and one of my videos was **viewed by almost 11 thousand people** from India and countries of Europe. But still I wasn't a views-minded guy. I started freelancing and earned money and saved it for the future. I believe that video creation should be named as a perfect job in the future. And then something good happened. One day, a filmmaker viewed one of my traveling videos and contacted me for acting in his short films. I was shocked. My parents always supported me for anything I wanted. And Dream Box Production gave me the script of the film. This was like a dream to me. **Last Sunday I was called for a shooting in Gandikota, the great canyon of India.** I keep on inspiring people to travel and explore the world. And I am balanced. I concentrate on both studies and video creation equally. I just want to say one thing at last - never stop learning and start working hard with consistency and focus in whichever field you are in.

INVESTED TIME IN MY HEALTH AND FITNESS



Lockdown in one way is a hindrance in the daily routine of the people. But on the other side, it definitely has a better advantage.

From my point of view it had a positive impact.

Initially in the first phase of lockdown, I just spent all my time watching TV. But as days started passing, I started to engage myself in art and craft, which I love the most. Apart from this, my favorite hobby was organizing my home.

So, when the COVID cases started deteriorating, I started sharpening my skills in basketball, along with my few friends. As I stayed on the school campus, it provided me

an opportunity to engage myself in extra curricular activities.

I used to spend two hours daily on the ground and hone my skills in shooting, dribbling, passing and learning unique methods of defense and offense in basketball.

Apart from this, I improved my physical fitness through jogging and physical exercise as well as my mental health through meditation and yoga.

This unique experience gave me a memorable and unforgettable life-long remembrance.

So this way, the lockdown shaped me into a skilled, physical fit and mentally sound child!

C. BHAVISHYA
Class 11



WROTE STORIES AND CREATED ART



One day I was watching the news, and the anchor of the news channel announced the lockdown. It was stated that the lockdown is

imposed to stop the spread of deadly Coronavirus.

The news made me sad, and I was irritated about the fact that my school will be shut until further notice. The shopping malls, playgrounds, parks etc were closed as well. Initially I was very bored, and it felt as if I was locked in the house but soon after, I started learning new things. I would watch youtube and make some interesting crafts. I read books, helped my mother in the kitchen and developed an interest in writing stories. Besides spending time with my family, I also

focused at improving my maths. I feel happy to share that I have created 5 art works and they are hung in different rooms in my house. As we all know, things worsened after we were hit by the second wave of COVID 19. Our family decided to take a break from the city and visit my grandparents who live in a village. I attended my online classes during the day. My early morning was about taking care of the plants. During my stay with my grandparents, I learnt so many things about gardening.

GEETHIKA
C.M
Class 9



ENJOYED COOKING WITH MY MOTHER

When the government announced the lockdown, I was feeling awful because I could not step out. I thought my lockdown would be boring but later realised that I was wrong. I helped my mother most of the time and she was happy about that. When I found myself with nothing to do, I started learning and writing new facts and that helped me in improving my knowledge. Sunday was my favorite day because my mother and I made new recipes in the evening.

I was sad because I was missing school and my friends. One of the other reasons was our summer vacation travel plans were put on hold. I spent more time with my story books

and I treated my books as my best friends. Reading books helped me travel to different places through stories. When I felt I had nothing to do in the evenings I would play indoor games with my mother.

I like other activities like art, music and dance so I drew pictures and decorated them on different walls of my house. If you come to my house, you will see my room is full of beautiful pictures now and most of them are made by me. Sometimes I would even do gardening which was so fun. We grew some fruits and vegetables and I watched my favorite cartoon shows which included doremon. My lockdown story is wonderful and I am thankful that I got time to spend with my family and books



**HARSHINI
PASAM**
Class 9

LEARNT TO MAKE CREATIVE USE OF RESOURCES

It's been two years since India woke up to a day of unusual stillness. Desolate roads, shuttered markets, empty offices, deserted factory floors - the pandemic-induced lockdown brought this vast change. Many workers moved on foot, walking to their native places - no buses, trains and planes. Virus impacted the way children learned at school and the way their families earned a living.

I got an opportunity to have enough time to read story books. Without going out, I explored many places by reading books. We

had family celebrations, sharing and learning new skills. Days in lockdown were an opportunity for children to remake ways of playing and learning responsibilities and their role in contributing to household chores. During curfews, I learnt about the importance of being creative with the short resources and limited physical space we had at home. Some even learned new skills but what matters most is learning to appreciate the emotional connection made between different generations.



**B. MANASWINI
REDDY**
Class 9

OPENED MY MIND IN COOKING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

The virus changed my life from a hero to a zero. As I turned covid positive, it felt like being in jail without any crime. Before covid infection my life revolved around travelling, I didn't get much free time. So, I started thinking out of the box, since I had to manage cooking etc. As I took healthy measures, I turned from positive integer to negative integer.

There were so many activities that changed my life from a lazy cat to an active strong tiger. I made my mom an enemy of the kitchen and made the kitchen my best friend. At first it was hard to make the kitchen my best friend. But I turned myself in as the chef of my house by adding new ingredients and exciting recipes. Before the lockdown, I could only make maggi in 2 minutes but now I can cook chicken as well. My family's response to my food was - "You are an awesome cook- the dishes are delicious".

The only thing I do on my phone is jumping from WhatsApp to snapchat and to Instagram. So, I decided to put it to some good use, I started doing mobile photography and learnt editing as a skill. I started editing the pictures and earned some amount of money. My friend Atharva, who is a photographer and a creative writer, inspired me with his photographs, so I started doing photography on a regular basis. My photography has improved very much and I'm thankful to the lockdown as it gave me the opportunity to explore my interests.

After learning the tricks of camera and kitchen, it was time to make Netflix and amazon prime my best friends forever. I enjoyed a lot of web series with my family. This lockdown helped me to open my locked mind.



RENU SREE
Class 9

MADE MEMORIES AND STOOD STRONG

Happiness and sadness are the two phases of life. Our life seems to be colourful and beautiful like a rainbow when we are in the phase of happiness. I felt like we were in seventh heaven. My world - my amma, dad and my sister are everything to me. My little world became more beautiful when the lockdown started.

Keeping aside all the negatives happening around the globe, we got a big break from our routine wherein both my amma and dad were busy in the grueling race of life. We got to discover ourselves. We made lots of memories and everything went smooth as silk till that one hell of a day - October 1st, an evil eye knocked the door of my little world. My dad, the most enduring person in my family who always brings loads of positive vibes was tested positive. A moment of panic was raised in my family. Being kids, my sister and I were confined in our room among the four walls. Every time we heard his cough, our hearts would cripple. Those 14 days drill was to break down and cry at nights because things were getting worse but my amma never gave up.

She stood fearless and lionhearted, supporting him to defeat the virus. My sister and I knew, indeed we believed that he would fight the virus back. But, life isn't the same as we expect it to be. My dad's condition was quite serious and he had to be admitted to the hospital. And that day I felt sunken. My little world couldn't afford to lose anyone from it because we were four different personalities but all our hearts were connected. It was totally blank and I couldn't think about anything else but gratefully God loved my family for being good to others and returned our dad safely back to us.

The day he returned, it was like my world had become complete. The warmth in his hug and sweetness in his words gave me a sigh of relief! My good old days are back again!



**RHITHIKA
REDDY**
Class 9

MADE MY YOUTUBE DEBUT

Lockdown – a new term, a new experience in life. Staying at home with no work is so tedious. I got a great idea to share my thoughts to the public. So, I chose YouTube as my tool. YouTube is a platform where we can share our ideas to the world. I wanted to share my knowledge, travelling experiences, lifestyle and quirky thoughts. Now-a-days YouTube is becoming a vast and popular app among people. We can use YouTube to educate ourselves and learn something new. I was fascinated by YouTube videos and wanted to share my talent with the world.

The lockdown gave me the best opportunity to start my YouTube channel. Since we were having a lot of time, I thought not to waste the time and instead started my channel. I named it 'Mom Ki Pari' which means 'Mom's Angel', and my family supported me very much. My channel went live in the last week of March. I learnt many new skills like editing, facing the camera and communicating effectively.

My struggles to make good videos on Evolution of Nature attracted people towards my channel. I hope to earn more subscribers for our channel. I am happy as this lockdown helped me to make my dream and passion come true.



**K. SAZIDA
PARVEEN**
Class 9

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOME

The ongoing period has been a very lousy period for all of us. Everyone can see the differences between the past and the present. Everyone is eagerly waiting for a future where they will open the schools, shopping malls, movie theatres and etc. If you ask me, I can tell that this covid has taught many inspiring, interesting and life changing things for everyone ...

In my lockdown, I spent most of the time watching television, then after a few days I got bored. Then I started doing things like singing, dancing, craft and art ... Few days later, there was red zone and I was bored to hell.

Then in a family like mine where my mother is a nurse and my father owns a medical shop, we were really busy outside saving people, my mother had no time for spending time with me and my sister nor for cooking ...so slowly a thought occurred to me, "why can't I cook for everyone ". Then slowly I started browsing net and learned how to cook a few recipes. I called

my grandmother and asked her a few more recipes ... like that slowly I learnt how to cook and then helped my mother in kitchen chores also ...

Now I can cook many dishes on my own and help my mother feel at ease about the house. Me and my sister used to play many things like bingo and we used to clean the house every day. Once we had a problem with our washing machine and no one came to repair in lockdown, so me and my sister washed all the clothes and dried them up. My mother was very happy. One day I made a wall hanging with paper and hanged it in my house on the wall. This lockdown time made me behave more mature and made me learn many interesting things.



THANMAYEE
Class 9

MY LOCK DOWN STORY

I am a teacher in an International School. It is my routine to prepare lessons and deliver but lockdown had given me a wonderful opportunity to learn new technology to facilitate my students even during the pandemic. I attended many webinars related to new teaching pedagogies to adopt new systems quickly. I didn't even stop teaching for a week. As soon as the lockdown started, I got into new methods and modes of teaching.

I realized that the pandemic is not going to end soon. Hence, I shifted my family to my native village. The real joy of lockdown started as soon as I reached my village. I could recall my childhood days by seeing all my childhood friends in the village. As it was a rural village, we were away of corona. Hence, we had great fun together like fishing, dinners, playing and guiding young students who were preparing for their board exams. Being away from electronic gadgets and spending evenings with friends gave me great

relaxation and immense joy.

I can say that this lockdown has given me a memorable gift. I am blessed with a baby boy. As it was a lockdown, I could spend a lot of time with my wife and family. It was a memorable and joyful lockdown

I could create this acronym through my experiences during the lockdown.

L- LOVELYTIME WITH FAMILY BY

O- OBEYING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE GOVT.

C- CREATING A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTAND

K - KNOWING THE STATUS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD.

D- DEDICATED TO HOME WITH MY WORK AND

O- OFFERING PRAYERS FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

W- WAITING TO SEE ALL TOGETHER WITH

N- NEW SKILLS AND LIFESTYLE IN FUTURE.



**UPENDRA
REDDY**
Teacher

FACED HURDLES WITH COURAGE

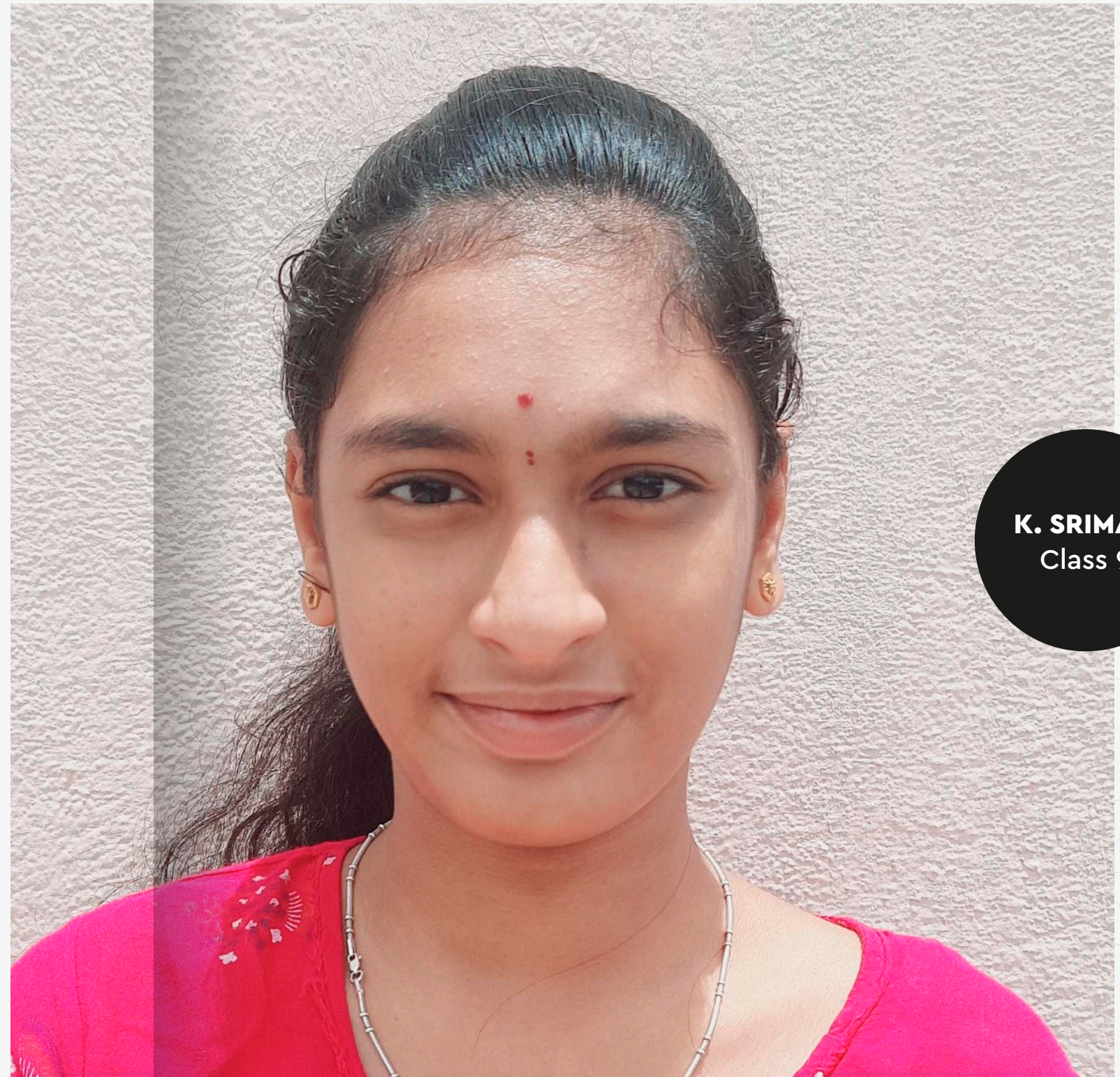
We take many breaks in our lives. One of the longest breaks is "The Lockdown". The lockdown was full of hurdles and there were only a few happy moments which are memorable throughout the life. For some it has been a nightmare in their lives.

In my life lockdown played a crucial role. First and foremost I could experience some of my happy moments in lockdown. I spent most of the time with my family. I wanted to play Badminton with my family and this lockdown made my wish come true. I played with my mother and brother and this gave me so many joyful and crazy moments. My mother is a good chef and I learnt so many tips and delicious recipes which were mouth-watering. I also played the game of Ludo with my family. I could spend most of my time with my father which I couldn't before. This became one of the memorable moments.

In this lockdown I faced many hurdles which were beyond my bounds. The most unforgettable situation in my life was when my parents were affected by COVID. In this situation I was heartbroken but had to make my heart steadfast. I took the leadership of the house and gave support to my grandparents as well as my brother when my parents were away. After they returned home I had a sigh of relief and this made my day. I helped them in many ways during their recovery period.

This period was horrible as I heard deaths due to COVID 19. No one should ever come across these obstacles in their life. They should take enough precautions which are given by the Government.

We should be brave enough to face any hurdles or obstacles in our lives. We should not lose hope in our lives.



K. SRIMALI
Class 9

REDISCOVERED THE STARS AND NEW INTERESTS

AVANTHIKA.G
Class 10



T

o begin with, this lockdown actually started with being the big holiday break that everyone dreamt of to escape from their stressful daily lives, but things surely got complicated and took quite a turn.

As a teenager, my days were filled with emotional mood swings, things were confusing, and a bit of fear of what life was. I sometimes spent my time wasting it, surfing the internet, playing games and at times staring at the wall. On the other side, my days were filled with a journey of adventures. Here is a little story from there.

Being at home for long, felt stifled, so I used to go up to the top of my building late evening and stare at the sky. It always made me wonder when was the last time we all slept and spent time gazing at the stars. Being too busy with our lives we actually forget all the little things which make us happy.

The dark sky with the bright moon and many twinkling little stars made me reminisce about all of my forgotten memories. They

didn't fail to bring a smile to my face. It was fascinating to think that everyone, including the stranger we met yesterday to the people we found on the news, looked up at the same beautiful night sky. It felt amazing.

I had little chats about our moments in school with my father, listened to all kinds of music which took me to another world while gazing at the starry night skies.

On other days I started to self-teach myself Guitar with my father's help. My fingertips ached badly but I loved to learn to play it. I stressed myself out a bit with my online classes. I danced and sang my heart out, stayed with my grandparents and relatives, did arts, cooked, spent family nights, participated in online Karate competitions and MUN conference, played and exercised and did everything one could name from silly to serious. I made hobbies and wrote songs. I loved watching movies, series and anime(s). I had a lot of time to think about how life has changed," Unpredictably".

USED THE TIME TO TRY NEW THINGS

Sudden lockdown implied change in the entire lifestyle of the population. During this lockdown, I was initially happy about the virus because there were no schools. I was happy that I will get to enjoy all day. I play games, watch movies and web series and listen to music right from morning to night. However, I decided to utilise the time instead. At first, out of curiosity I tried making pizzas, burgers, cakes, bread, potato chips, cookies and some Indian food, some turned out

to be great and some didn't turn out as good. As a hobby, I started reading about different types of spices, how to cultivate them, facts about spices, precautions to cultivate spices and when to use them. It turned out to be a very good experience. I also started helping out my mother in household chores and cleaning the house frequently to protect from viruses. At first, online classes seemed very exciting but soon after it took a toll on me. Lockdown was thrilling as well as tiresome. I learnt new things and I am eager for schools to open.



BHAVYAAMRUTHA
Class 10

BONDED WITH MY LOVED ONES

“Everything can change at any moment, suddenly and forever” - like most of the school going people across the world, my summer vacation activities have been cancelled because of the pandemic.

Before the pandemic I would go to school and return in the evening but these days, all the students are attending online classes. More so, the foreign trip that my family had planned for the summer vacation has been cancelled. Earlier, I used to play outdoor games with my friends in the apartment but post the arrival of COVID 19, our

parents restricted us from playing. One of the most unfortunate things that happened was I lost my grandfather to the complication of COVID 19. I miss my grandfather everyday. He lived across the street and he used to come to our house daily. After our game time in the evening, my brother and I used to sit with him, and enjoy our evening snacks.

However, the pandemic has taught me valuable lessons like how important it is to spend time with our near and dear ones. I utilised the time to watch movies, read books and bond with my siblings.

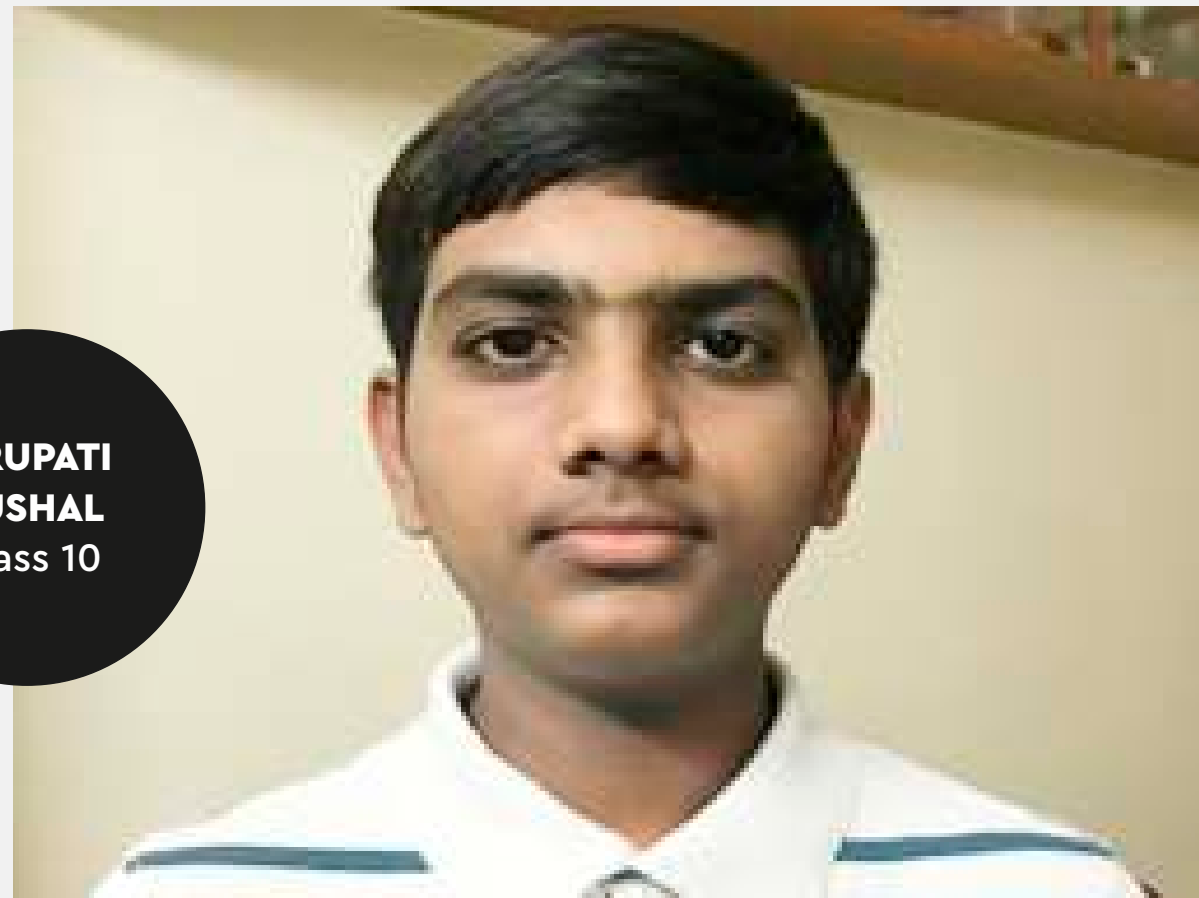


R. CHARAN
Class 10

LEARNT NEW SKILLS LIKE BAKING AND CODING

In this pandemic situation as we all know, we were expected by the government to stay in our home all the time, and come out only if there is an emergency like need. The technology has given us so much comfort- we can order vegetables, medicines and almost anything that we want on a click. We can learn plenty of things online like cooking, drawing, online courses, etc. from YouTube and many other websites. I used the lockdown to learn some new skills. After learning to bake a cake, I baked a cake and some cupcakes for my father's birthday. Not only this, I

enrolled myself for coding courses like HTML, Python, and Java Script. I watched new movies on Amazon Prime. As an interest, I learnt to solve rubik's cube, played carton board, chess and UNO with my family on Sundays. I tried not to waste time. It's really hard to manage time being packed with different activities. In between my learning sessions, I watched TV for refreshment and a bit of entertainment. I tried reading interesting moral story books at night. I read spiritual and motivational books too. I attended online classes as per the timetable given by my teachers.



**TIRUPATI
KUSHAL**
Class 10

BAKED HAPPINESS

Everyone must have gone through difficult times in their lives especially last year during the lockdown. All have their own stories and experiences; even I had a beautiful experience.

I have a great interest in learning different kinds of recipes, especially baking. Before the lockdown I was going to school and was busy most of the time. Routine life- waking up in the morning, dressing up, going to school, again back from school, eating something, writing homework and going to bed. Life was boring and tasteless as everyday was the same with my routine and school. I was fed up with it.

All of a sudden an unexpected situation rose - Lockdown. I thought it would last for a week or two but no. I got so much time which I never expected in life. I thought that it was the best

time to learn something I always dreamt to learn - Baking!

Then I came to know about a woman who taught baking. I was so excited to learn. I told my parents about this and they accepted my request. I went there and learned many cupcake recipes. I was so happy to learn many recipes. After coming back home I tried some of the recipes. The recipes turned out great and were beyond my expectations.

My parents and family members were very happy. Especially my sister who ate almost fifteen cupcakes, impressed by my recipes.

This lockdown was very helpful to me and I learned something new.



**LEKHANA
SANA**
Class 10



TURNED NEGATIVITY TO POSITIVE LEARNING

NANDINI
Class 10



In this pandemic situation there are many people who suffered due to lack of food, basic requirements, shelter, etc. It was sad to hear unpleasant news.

To distract myself from negative news, I decided to focus on studying about different flora species in my garden. So I started research on each and every plant, and found many interesting things about the jasmine flower, guava and flower of God.

Not only this, there are so many things which I have learnt during this lockdown:-

- I cooked different varieties of food for my grandfather. Like panipuri, masala puri, etc.
- I made my home look beautiful.
- I learnt to bake from my aunt.

- I had a joyful time with my father.
- I went to different temples.
- There are many memories which are very valuable to me.

COVID 19 gave a lot of struggles to everyone.

It also taught me how to overcome situations.

It made "me" understand how important life is.

"Without Nature there is no life".

Problems don't stay for a long time but the confidence which we gain to overcome the situation stays for a long time.

"Face the problem but don't avoid it".



SPENT TIME WITH FAMILY

My experience of lockdown as a student has had its ups and downs, as you would imagine. Being confined to our homes with no outside social interactions with humans is tough and goes against our human nature. During this coronavirus time as a student, I was initially happy about the virus because there was a lockdown all over India, there were no schools and colleges. Soon after, I started waiting for things to go back to normal so that I could meet friends and relatives. It was a difficult time, I enjoyed online classes. At first as it was a different experience. After a month I came to know that there are lots of disadvantages and advantages to this type of education.

COVID 19 has caused huge loss in jobs, lives, and the economy of the country. But speaking about our student life, we got more holidays and time to learn new things. I used the time wisely and learnt many

new things like art and craft. The lockdown gave me enough time to spend with my family. I watched many new movies, made my own jokes and made my family laugh.

I spoke with my friends and relatives over the phone as meeting them was not possible. After attending my online lectures, I would talk to my father and mother about my dreams and ambitions. It was a learning experience but I missed meeting my friends and going to school.



SHANMUGA
Class 10

LEARNT THE VALUE OF LIFE

You should appreciate what you have, before it becomes what you had". Like many other people, I even lost my maternal grandfather during the recent pandemic times.

He died due to COVID-19, immediately all our family members were tested and hopefully all tested negative. The common thing which occurs when a beloved person passes away is grief which was comparatively more in my mother. Even though we tested negative we had to be home quarantined for the next 14 days. Before all these pandemic days, I had a routine schedule to go to school and come back home in the evening like every other student. As my grandfather's house is just in front of ours, he used to visit us every

evening. I couldn't spend much time with him as I would be busy doing homework. The only time when we spent time was on Sundays, I used to have my evening snacks there, and have much more entertainment with my younger brother. However, after his death till today I remember him every evening, still my mind says "he has gone to another place and will return soon".

Finally, the lesson that the pandemic taught me is to appreciate and be happy with what you have before it becomes what you had.



R. HITHESH
Class 11

TRANSFORMED INTO A CHILD-CENTRIC FACILITATOR

C. SAILAJA
PGT



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his lockdown gave me a mixture of happiness and distress. I lost my younger brother-in-law due to covid and

the family could not perform the last rituals to bid him to the abode of eternal home.

Despite ongoing happenings, life has to continue. As part of the teachers' orientation CBSE made it obligatory for every teacher to attend 50 workshops, which kept me engaged and opened up a new sight of learning. As it often reminds me 'A Teacher - Ever Learner'.....I attended 10 workshops in the month of May. They were very informative which strengthened my

digital teaching. Workshops have given vast information regarding NEP POLICY, 21 st Century Skills, blended learning and Competency Based Learning. The training sessions were an eye-opener for me.

My perception has given me a new scope of feeling that every child has his own way of learning which has to be accepted by the teacher. Teaching by using different life skills, learning skills, creating a pro-science home, developing thinking skills, supporting their experiments, including games, develop scientific temper as per Article 51A.

No individual expected changes from chalk and talk to digital teaching- ultimately the child is very happy.

National Education Policy

2020

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