



**Epistemo**  
Vikas Leadership School

# Epistemo **Lemur's News**





## Greetings from Epistemo!

Children must be taught how to think, not what to think, is the motto of modern education, and keeping with this philosophy, Epistemo has consistently endeavoured to take learning out of the classroom, and closer to real life as far as possible. The month of July witnessed a slew of activities- many of them held outside the closed confines of the classroom- that sought to bring in learning as close to reality as possible. Here is a catalogue of all the events and happenings in the month of July.

### Events:

In collaboration with the "Serve the Needy", an NGO that promotes social awareness, and as a part of civic literacy program in our school, a field trip was organized for Grade 5 to 8 students on 6 July 2019. Our learners visited an organic farm near Thummakunta village, Shameerpet. For the students, the trip presented the opportunity to get their hands in the soil and use the farm as learning tool. Students planted seeds, saplings, weeded out unwanted plants and much more. By leaving the traditional class behind, they learnt about natural environment through conversation with farmers. During their journey back to school in bus they shared their observations made during the trip.













As part of our month-long Vanmahotsav celebrations, students of the school, along with their teachers planted around 30 Singapore Cherry trees in the campus. The Vanmahotsav celebrations brought about an awareness on the need to maintain the green cover in and around our city, and also motivated the children to adopt a more responsible attitude in planting and caring for trees to save mother earth.

















## Workshop on Styles of Parenting.

Parenting style can have a deep impact on the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of a child. It's important to ensure a parenting style that supports healthy growth and development because the way a parent interacts with his/her children will influence them for the rest of their life.

Principal Ms. Hema Surapaneni conducted a seminar for parents on styles of parenting on 20 July 2019. The seminar focused on the four different styles of parenting-authoritative, helicopter parenting, democratic, and permissive. Over the course of the workshop, parents got the opportunity to do a self-assessment on what kind of parenting style they follow, and whether or not it works for their children. It was an eye opener for parents who welcomed the insights and guidance provided by the Principal, and requested for more sessions on the topic in future.







### Reflection Day for Global Perspective

As a part of Cambridge curriculum, the learners of Epistemo Global Vikas Leadership school organized the 'Reflection Day' of their learning in the Global Perspectives program which was open to all parents.

Global Perspective is an innovative and stimulating skills-based program that places academic study in a practical, real-world context. It gave students the opportunity to develop the skills that they need to be successful at school. The program taps into the way today's students enjoy learning, including group work, seminars, projects and working with other students around. The emphasis was on developing students' ability to think critically about a range of global issues where there is always more than one point of view.

The reflection of the topics covered in Unit 1 by respective classes were displayed in various forms, through power point presentations, charts, journals, models, videos and pictures of the activities. The students with the guidance of teachers presented the program with great confidence.

The presence of parents and grandparents really made the day. It was a first time experience for many parents at Epistemo to have a look at how the global perspective classes have been planned and executed and the parents gave a wonderful feedback. They were very happy and took great pride in the performance of their wards.













## Cambridge community meet

Principal Ms. Hema Surapaneni and Cambridge Coordinator Ms. Vani Marri attended the Cambridge Community Meet hosted by Birla Open Minds International School on 18 July 2019. The meet, attended by heads of the Cambridge affiliated schools in twin cities along with the schools in Vizag and Karimnagar, sought to give a common platform for the schools to come together and address issues and new proposals under the IGCSE.

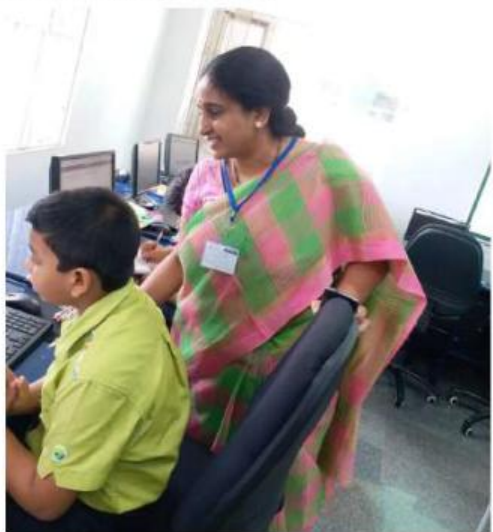
During the course of the meet, a proposal for a newsletter (quarterly) was raised, and our school has taken the initiative to edit and publish it. Epistemo is also hosting the Robotics and Theatre fest on 3 August 2019 for the Cambridge schools in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.





## TUDU Buddy Program in school.

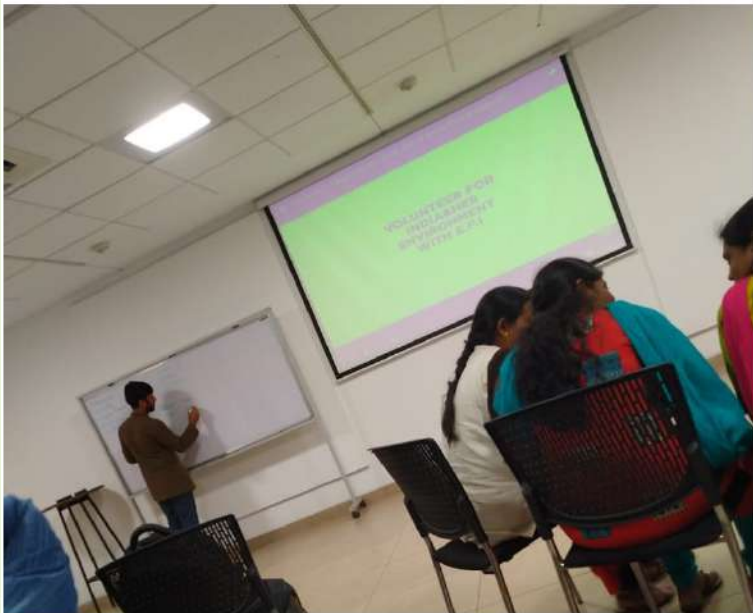
The TuduBuddy app has been introduced to students of Grades 5-7, and the platform was used to assess the standard of our grade 5 students in Math, grade 6 students in Science & grade 7 students in English. The students were excited about taking the test online, and it was a good first time experience for the students. The detailed report and feedback of the performance will come in useful for both teachers and parents.





## DOT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Teachers of the Science & Social studies department accompanied selected students of grades 7,8 &9 attended the DOT Leadership program conducted by the Environmental Foundation of India (EFI) on 5 and 6 June. The program was spread over two days and focused on the recycling of plastic waste into useful products and ways and means to conserve and our water bodies.





### Guest talk: YOUNG AND OLD (Global Perspective)

To reinforce the differences in the lifestyle, thought process of the young and old generation for our learners, we arranged an open interactive session with the grandfather of a child ( Kritagnya- 1B). The little ones were very happy and enthralled by Grandfather's experiences. Grandfather too was excited to share his childhood memories. He started with his school days where he said he used to walk and some days go on a bicycle. The fear of teachers and parents did not allow anyone to skip the school. If anyone missed the school, they were picked up from home by other students sent by the teacher. One of the teachers shared that her grandfather used to swim and go to school.

He had an interesting conversation with the children on the importance of prayer and blessings from their elders. He added that prayer before sleep give a sound and deep sleep. He shared the information about how cooking was done, how they enjoyed the lunch by riverside and many more.

The session was interactive and learners gifted a memento to grandpa to express their love, care and concern for their grandparents.









As part of a lesson about river islands, students of grade 9 had a guest talk and interaction with Mr. Pappu, member of our security staff, who comes from Majuli, which is a large river island situated in the Brahmaputra in the state of Assam.

Mr. Pappu shared stories about the life and occupations of the people of his home island, and answered questions posed by students. Students were thrilled at being part of this novel learning experience.





## Bonalu Celebrations

The vibrant and unique folk festival 'Bonalu', reflecting the Telangana culture was celebrated in the school premises by our pre-primary learners. Along with this celebration the school also celebrated Vanmahotsav, giving our students the opportunity to understand the importance of nature and how to protect it. As part of the celebrations, our tiny tots performed dance in traditional attire and sang songs on environment. It was a fabulous and joyful moment for everyone present.









## Activities:

### An integration of sports with a lesson in English.

Students of Grade 7 got the opportunity to play a cricket match, a competitive game, which was required for the lesson in English Subject. The students noted all the facts of the match they have played. These facts are for the Sports Column of a News Report from their live experiences as players and also as a team of journalists. It was delightful to watch them. The Lemurs of grade 7 had a unique and new experience of noting down the facts of their own runs, catches, wickets, missed wickets and so on for the Report. They worked together to make a chronological order of the facts and information. Students were enthralled by their experience of learning beyond the classroom. It is always a proud moment for us when our students apply their learning in real life and succeed.





Students of grade 3 learnt to compare three digit numbers in a fun classroom activity. Pairs of students formed a 3-digit number each, by rolling a dice .Later they compared the numbers and recorded on the worksheets provided. The Lemurs also had fun with another activity on estimating numbers by observing the number of cubes in a box.





Hands on experience helped the learners of Grade2 to understand the sides and vertices of 2D and 3D shapes. They could share the newly acquired knowledge about shapes with their friends.





In another activity, learners of grade 2, enjoyed making a 3D model of Earth and its layers using play dough. They were able to identify and name the different layers of Earth.





Students of grade 1 enjoyed a math-activity on the topic 'Understanding Positions' which was conducted in integration with sports (running race). Students understood ordinal numbers like first, second, third, fourth. The learners also visited library to see fiction and non-fiction books as part of their learning in English





## More about Changes

### Grade 5A

Learning is always fun when it is activity based. Lemurs of grade 5A were quite occupied in the Chemistry lab conducting experiments to separate mixtures. They learnt and analyzed the methods of separating substances like sand and salt through filtration and evaporation. They also learnt the process of salt harvesting at smaller scale. They could relate this experiment to real methods applied in daily life for separating salt from sea water. They also understood scientific terms like solution, solute, solvent, filtration, filtrate, residue, dissolve, particle size and solubility.









As part of a group presentation, Grade 3 children expressed their views on usage of water, different causes of water pollution and steps to conserve water.

They included many insightful points to create awareness and came up with solutions to save water bodies. Hats off to these kids for providing such valuable information.



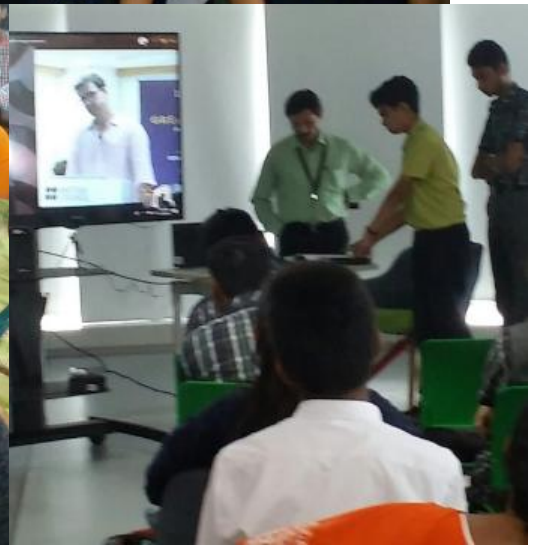


Children of 4A had fun with magnets in the form of an activity with magnetic and nonmagnetic materials . Students learned what is magnetic force of attraction and repulsion , which magnet is stronger etc . They bonded with friends sharing information about the same.



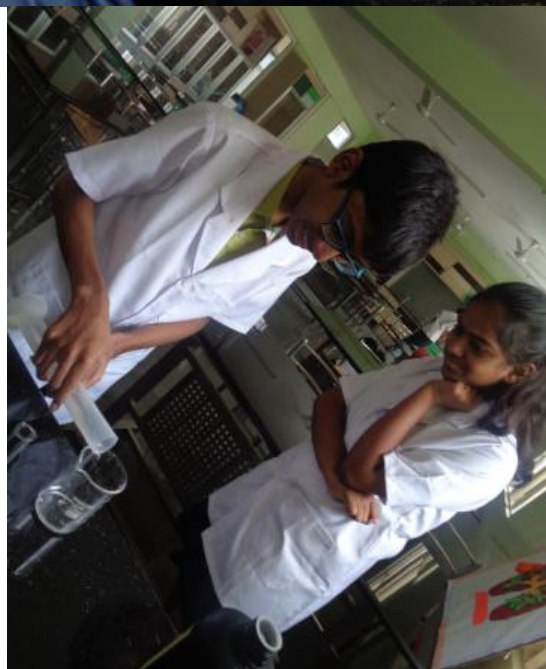


Lemurs of grade 9 and 10 attended a talk in British council titled "Astrobiology: The Hunt for Alien Life". It was presented by Dr. Lewis Dartnell, a professor of University of Westminster and author of the bestselling book 'Origin'. Astrobiology is a quest to understand origin, evolution, distribution and the future of life in the universe. It was an interactive Skype session connecting Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai. It helped answer queries, provide knowledge and generate curiosity.



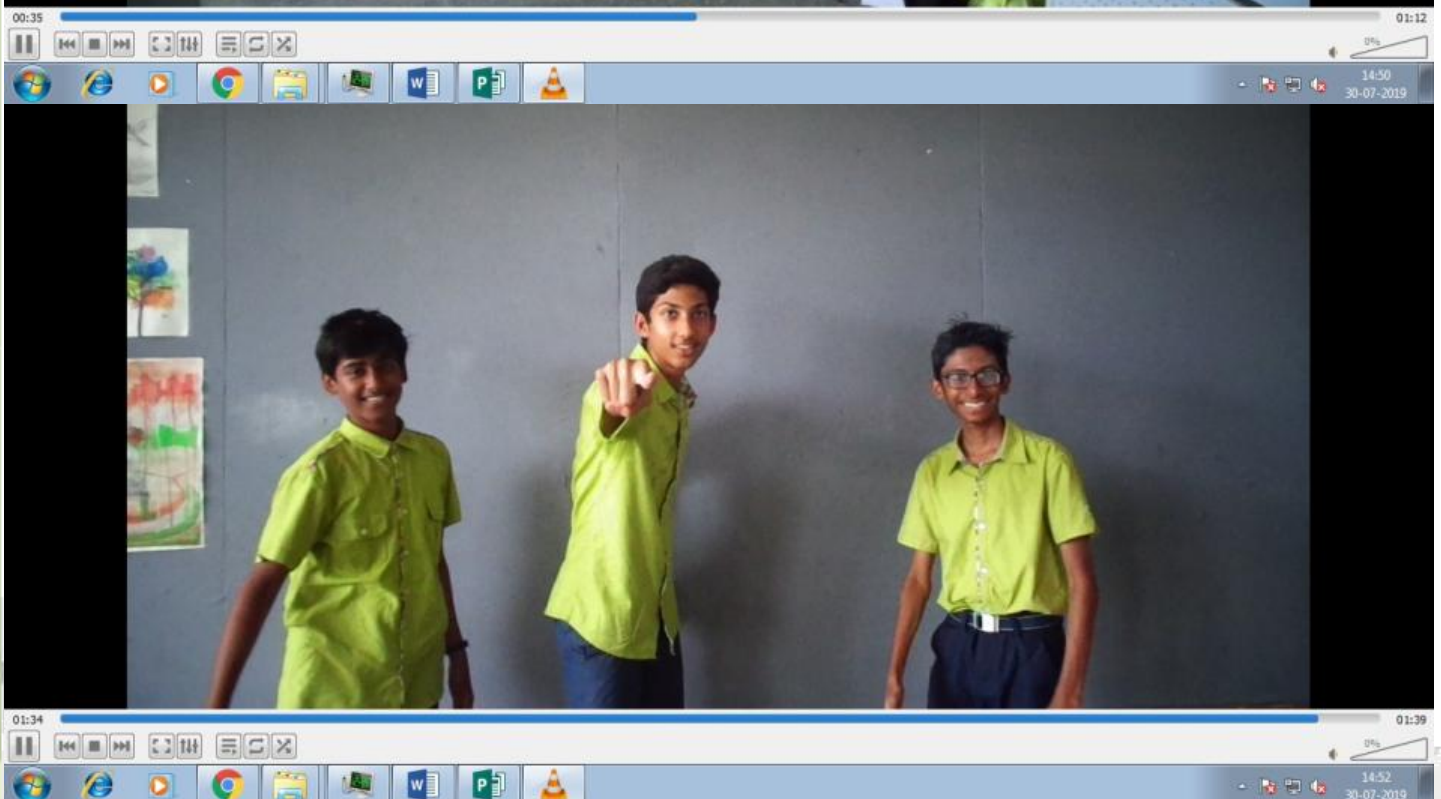


The students of Grade 9 performed an experiment to observe the action of catalase enzyme on hydrogen peroxide solution forming oxygen and water. They extracted the fresh catalase enzyme extract from leaves using phosphate buffer. Learners placed filter paper strips dipped in fresh enzyme in hydrogen peroxide solution and observed the release of oxygen bubbles making the filter strip rise to the surface of the solution.





Grade 9 IGCSE students had interesting sessions on “Advertisements”, and had a series of activities during which the class came up with some innovative advertisements for print, radio and TV.





## Pre-primary Activities

To enhance the concept of capital and small letters, students did a tracing activity on colour and normal sand, as a method of improving fine motor skills.

Learners learnt about skeletal system and human skeleton system through hands on activity.









## Sports:

**Athletics:** Epistemo Lemurs participated in Charminar Challenge Khelo Hyderabad Championship 2019 organized by Hyderabad District Athletics Association at Balayogi stadium on 6 July 2019. A total of 8 members participated, they have given their best in Heats. Parth of grade 5 bagged gold medal in 60 m sprint and Bronze medal in 200m sprint.





**SSGF Cricket Tournament:** 11 students have participated in the U14/16 category in Mahathma Gandhi Sub – Junior State Cricket Championship selections organized by School Sports and Games Federation held at Ashwin Cricket Academy, Boduppal on 6 & 7 July 2019.



**Medak District Badminton selections** – 22 students participated in the U- 10 /13 /15/17 category in Medak District Badminton selections held at the BHEL International Club court and BHEL Community Centre court from 19 to 21 July'19. Students performed extremely well and reached quarter and semi finals





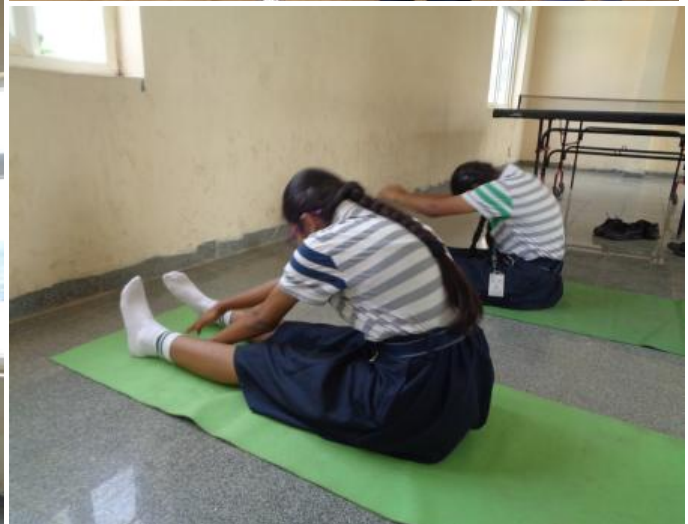
Our Lemurs participated in the Under -14 category cricket selections organized by School Games Federation of India at Meridian International School , Madhapur. Toshith of grade 6 , Chanakya of grade 7, Tanay of grade 6, Akshat Saxena of grade 8 and Haripavan of grade 5 have been selected for second round of selections.

Akshat Saxena from Grade VIII and Tanay from Grade VI have also been selected for inter district SGFI cricket tournament from Ranga Reddy District.





**HPE** : Health and Physical Education is concerned with total health of the learner and the community. Besides physical health, mental and emotional health of the learners are also assessed under HPE. Students of Grade 9 & 10 were assessed in fulfillment of the criteria for CBSE.





### Friday Assembly write up:

The Friday Assembly witnessed an assembly of appreciation and felicitation. The winners of CCA Story Telling and Writing Competitions of the month of June '19 were announced. The Olympiad Exam Certificates for the achievers were also distributed. It was a proud moment for Lemurs to pat themselves for the great achievement Grade 8 Students have secured by scoring good percentage in Cambridge Check Point Exam. Certificates were issued to the achievers and Mentors, Miss.Bindu Sri-dhar, Miss Vani Marri, Miss. Rajini V, for the tremendous assistance and support given to the students.

Two Police Constables were felicitated by our beloved Principal for a humanitarian act. They took our Security Guard who was not keeping well while on duty (night shift) to nearest Hospital and did the needful. They accepted the small token of Appreciation from Epistemo and felicitated students from Grades 8 (Neha), 9 (Parthavesha) and 10 (Purab) with appreciation badges for their helpful nature .

















## External Exams:

Lemurs of Epistemo participated in different Olympiads in level- II and secured Zonal ranks, medals and appreciation certificates.

Divya Anil of 3B won Zonal 3 Rank in NCO, Zonal Bronze Medal, and Certificate of Zonal Excellence along with a cash award. Arnayu Amol won the Zonal 7th Rank in NCO, Zonal Bronze Medal, Certificate of Zonal Excellence along with a gift voucher of 1000/- . Anuprabha of 3C has won the Certificate of Zonal Excellence + Medal of Distinction & Certificate of Distinction for securing 18th Rank in both NCO, IMO, and 43rd rank in NSO. Zane Aloysius D Souza of Gr 3 – Zonal 19th Rank, Certificate of Zonal Excellence + Medal of Distinction + Certificate of Distinction in NCO.

Kanika Kumar won the Zonal 10th Rank in IEO, Certificate of Zonal Excellence along with a gift voucher of 1000/- . Riyan Majumdar of Gr 4, has secured the zonal 14th rank and a Certificate of Zonal Excellence. Aranya Jane, Punya sloka, Dinesh Koushik, Harshith Gottemukkala, Mrithika.E, Prakriti, Priya darshini, Aadit.G, Akhil Jagatha, and Ananya Balaswami received the Zonal appreciation certificates for IEO.

Krishna Sree, Neela Ambika, Tamanna Yadav, Akhil Jagatha, Hariharan and Rohan Vadiyil, have received the Zonal appreciation certificates for NSO. Sam Manuvel, Rishab Garai, Jyothi Rani, Svanik Vasi Reddy, Sri Prajwal Reddy, Zane D'souza, Meghana.V, C. Ananya, and Nishka have received the Zonal appreciation certificates for IMO.

Our Teachers, Ms. Rajani V, Ms Vani, Ms. Bindu Sridhar, Ms. Sowmya, and Ms Deepti were also awarded for their great initiation, commitment and for their valuable contribution towards conducting different National and International Olympiads at our school.





## Program for Gifted Students

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) has been organizing with support from the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, training programs to provide the orientation and planning skills required for scientists/ technocrats of the country and to emphasize the development of leadership qualities through the integration of multidisciplinary knowledge.

In this regard, Silver Oaks, the school of Hyderabad, invited applications from the gifted students on 13 July Saturday. Out of 400 students, they have short listed 100 candidates, for inter views. After interviewing, 21 students from different schools were selected. Ms.Tamanna Yadav from Gr VIII, Master Vibhor ,Master Niranjan, Master Lalith and Master Chanakya from Grade VII from Epistemo got selected for the gifted students programe.



## Clubs and CCA

Students showcased their talent and creativity in a slew of inter-house competitions held earlier this month. A painting Fest for grades 1-4 and for grades 5-10 was organised on Friday (5/7/19) and Saturday (6/7/19) respectively. Interestingly, the students were given the topic of Vanamahotsav on which they enthusiastically painted their perceptions over the canvas.

Using different mediums and colours the students very beautifully represented the uniqueness of our planet, and touched upon many aspects related to environment, using their paintings to convey a message to society as well.

## Literary Fest

Continuing with the theme of environment awareness the Inter house literary fest was conducted for lemur of grade 1-4 on 12 July 2019 focused on the importance of plants.

'Turncoat' for grades 5-8 and 'Just a minute' for Grades 9 & 10 were held on 25 July, 2019. The extempore speaking competitions saw the lemur speaking spontaneously on a given topic with proper intonation, voice modulation and expression. The competition drew an overwhelming response from the students and it was appreciated by one and all present.

And with that, we come to an end of the round up of events this July. Wishing you an eventful August.

Regards

Team Epistemo























## Student Speak

### YOUR DREAMS AND AI

Article By B. Revanth Reddy, Grade X

(Disclaimer: Everything I've typed in is based on my opinions; I don't mean any offence to anyone)

Greetings! I am B. Revanth Reddy of Grade 10. This article will give you an idea about your life and career and AI, which stands for (if you don't know what it stands for, you are seriously living under a rock) Artificial Intelligence.

Whenever you are talking to adults, he/she may be your teacher, your senior, your parent, your friend's parent or anyone, I bet they ask you about what your ambition is, out of which few say they want to become engineers, or basically say they want to do a high paid job, this is because they are anxious about their career security or being in losses.

India is a country filled with engineers. Most of the students want to pass engineering and get a job so that they can make their parents happy and live life normally, which I say is not bad BUT is not the best YOU can do. I might sound unlike a student but I've figured how education system is linked with jobs.

Has any school taught students how to make money? Well in my opinion NO. YOU were born and are programmed to do all this. I agree that education is very necessary, but YOU must have a sense of making money. If you are doing whatever the society is asking you to do and you are suppressing your thoughts, you are working exactly like how they programmed you to.

If you are suppressing your dreams for career security and doing a job, then YOU are making OTHERS dreams come true. No one teaches you how to make money, YOU must figure a way out – how to. In today's world, nobody has an interest in old fashioned stuff except for very few. Everyone like cool stuff. If you are dreaming big, add technology. In today's world technology stands at the very top when it comes to business.

Various kinds of new technology have been coming out every decade, every year. Why not the next one come from YOU? One of the most grossing topics that everyone talk about is AI- Artificial Intelligence. It is the next phase of the future that our generation is mainly going to work with.

AI can be a good combination with anything, like let's say you dream about improving the conditions of agriculture. This can be done using proper AI. Even in health care, Robots with AI are programmed perfectly to perform surgeries. Robots with AI will be replaced in all the industries where millions will lose their jobs. Robots with AI will be used for architectural purposes. Basically, AI will be used in almost all of the major platforms. What's the use of a surgeon in a decade where his/her job will be replaced by AI?

What's the point of engineering when AI will replace most of the human jobs?

We just need few professionals to ensure the AI machines work properly for which you are going to be in insane pressure. And if you are thinking you will work as the one to program AI, there's going to be an AI programming another AI.



The future is not about ranks, it is about dreaming and working very hard and smart towards it, in which your knowledge will help you, that is why I respect education.

Keep coming up with new modern ideas, if you give a thousand attempts, trust me there's going to be one successful outcome.

Your education finishes at, let's say 25, THEN THIS WHEN YOU ARE COMPLETELY MANUFACTURED. Let's assume you are going to die when you are 70. If you want career security and keep your dreams suppressed, you will do a 9-5 until let's say, 55. You just have 15 YEARS LEFT! You are old and not very capable of exploring the world and enjoying your life. You were put in constant pressure for 55 years and you are just given 15 years to relax, it is not fair.

Remember, the salary given to you in your job is a BRIBE to suppress your dreams. There will be a thousand people in the society telling you to keep doing the job for the money. MONEY, MONEY, MONEY, after you are dead what does the money you've earned mean to you? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

Work on your interests, enjoy what you do, Dream big, work on your dreams, keep attempting.

Only the craziest ideas stand out in the world.

Be a Leader, be a gentleman, be self-disciplined.

Keep THINKING, never let others judgments let you down.

Live your Life, it's yours, don't be a slave for others dreams!

#### Feedback on guest talk

Pardhavesa, Grade 9B

Learning is not just confined to textbooks. A lot can be discovered and known from a conversation with a person belonging to the specific field. As part of our Geography lesson, our principal Ms. Hema Surapaneni invited Mr. Pappu, one of our watchmen to discuss about Majuli, the largest inhabited riverine island in the world.

In the conversation that followed, he shared a lot of information about the lifestyles and occupations of the people living there. We even learnt that in a place like Majuli, lives aren't as easy as we have here in cities. He gave an insight about how the people adjust in these conditions. There is a facility for children to have basic schooling. A primary healthcare is also situated. Mr. Pappu shared many such stories about Majuli which were interesting to hear. We thank our principal, Ms. Hema Surapaneni for this wonderful learning experience.



## Hackathon 2019 by Microsoft

### (by Surya Pranav grade 9 IGCSE)

It was a chilly crazy cold day when we visited Microsoft Hyderabad but we couldn't feel any of the chill due to the excitement, and all that mattered was what we were going to see!

We first entered a building called the garage and it was honestly confusing. It seemed like a huge announcement hall but the confusing part was that practically everyone was running outside this was when we got to know that the main exhibit was at the MLCP where everyone was going to.

We entered the crowded elevator to go to the MLCP hall, the immediate reaction was a surprise as there were what seemed like a million people setting up their counters with awe- inspiring ideas.

Imagine for a second that you are a Microsoft employee.

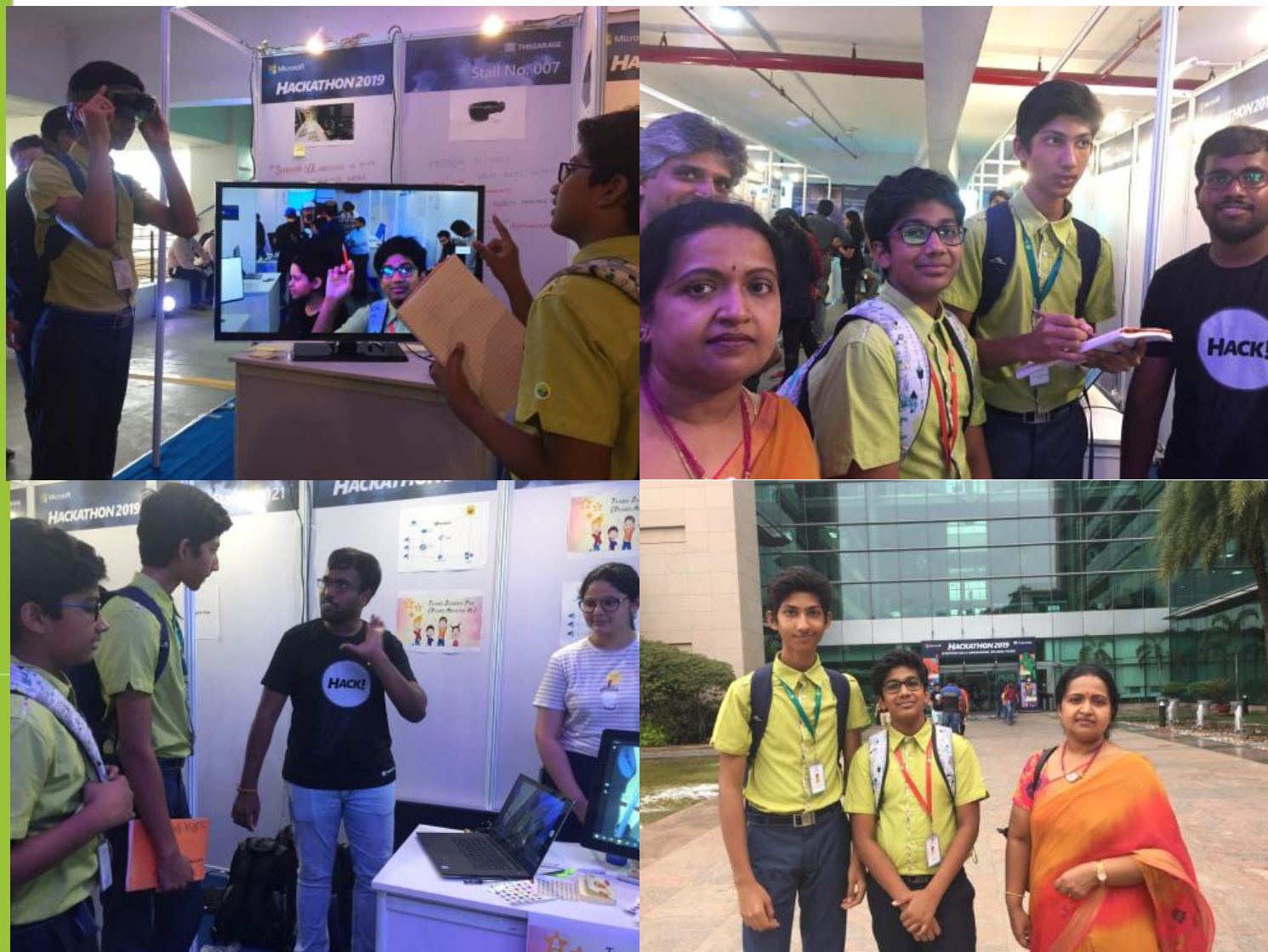
You have a *\*revolutionary\** idea, or maybe just a regular one.

You think this can be made as a business; or that it can help out people.

Now, you're just waiting for the perfect opportunity to give it some head room

The Hackathon is the perfect place/time to do that!

We entered with a blank brain and exited with the hundred more ideas to present.





## My Extraordinary Experience

### Saharsh, Grade VII B

Zoom! The plane was rising as we were going to New Jersey. I was going with my family to New Jersey for a math exam where the 1st place wins \$10,000. The plane started and a shiver went through my back. I was frightened. I held my breath and thought that nothing would happen. I was in 1st grade, and I had never got on a plane before. Looking at my face, my mom said, "It'll be alright". The plane went on the runway and I felt like my hair was falling off. It went up in a 45-degree angle, and I thought I will break the seat. I was alright though. The trip was about 5 hours. I was watching a movie to keep me entertained from the frightening sight through the window. At last when the plane was landing, I felt like cotton was stuffing my ear and I had so much pain. It felt like ripping my skin off. Finally the plane landed, and I still felt like I had cotton in my ear until the baggage claim was done. It was midnight, and we were heading to a hotel to stay for the night. When I stepped into the hotel, i felt like stepping into a mansion. It felt like a dream house, and I was astounded by it. The smell of the coffee filled up my lungs which got me awake. I could feel the cool breeze hit my head. I saw two escalators going up to the skies. I heard a lot of sounds from various cultures. We head into the room and it had everything I wanted. Two beds, a few armchairs, a fridge, and a T.V. filled up the room. I fell onto the bed, and the next thing I knew was that I fell asleep.

"Wake up Saharsh, it is time to go out for the competition," yelled my dad. I woke up as fast as a Peregrine Falcon diving for its prey. I was thrilled for the day because of the competition. I got ready in 45 minutes and spent the rest of the time studying for the exam. The money caught my eyes and motivated me to study hard. After everyone got ready, we boarded the rented car and we reached the competition in 15 minutes. As we entered the room, I felt another shiver go through my back thinking about what will happen if I don't win.

"Don't worry, you at least tried and made it through the first level", said my parents. That did feel true but my body was still shaking. The competition finally started and I went through the door into the room. There were about 50 more people of different ages in the examination room. The room felt and smelled sweaty because of everyone being anxious. I finally then sat down in my seat and received the question paper. "Three, two, one and the exam starts," said the invigilator. The questions were of all sort and I felt like the world was over when I stumped on a question. I just tried to have a positive attitude and wrote the exam. After a few hours, the exam scores were calculated and the scores were in. As they were announcing the ranks from last to first, I felt like waiting for the dreadful bell in a spelling bee. They started with the people that didn't win, and I was more than glad to not have my name called in that list. Later they called out the names for the toppers and three people tied for third place and one of them was me. I was totally astounded to see that I won the trophy and \$1,818. I became very enthusiastic and ran up the stage like I have never run before. "Good job", yelled both of my parents through the enormous crowd. That remained as one of my best moments in my life even until now.

After the exams, we went to New York in the rented car for the very first time. I wasn't expecting to see giant skyscrapers. After reaching there, all I could see were people rushing to get from one place to another like a herd of zebra or wildebeest. I was careful not to get lost in the crowd of people. The first place we visited was the stupendous Empire State Building. We went till the top floor and the people on the bottom looked like ants gathering food to their mound. Then we went to see the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island on a huge ship. The islands were stacked up with so much information that I couldn't even get time to read. We also visited the Times Square, Central Park, and the World Trade Center (largest building of U.S.A.). The Times Square had a huge clump of televisions and billboards featuring things like Harry Potter books. The World Trade Center was so high that it looked like it went above the clouds. After the trip to New York, we went to our final trip which was Washington D.C. Many towering monuments and buildings like the White House were seen by me through a double-decker bus.

The air smelled so fresh and the ride was refreshing. After the trips, we went back home to Texas on another flight, and I couldn't face my fears when riding the plane. I felt the exact same way, but I managed to go through the uncomfortable ride. Finally when I went home, I laid on the bed and I could see myself dreaming the next second. This felt like the best trip of my whole life.