

Vasant Valley TODAY

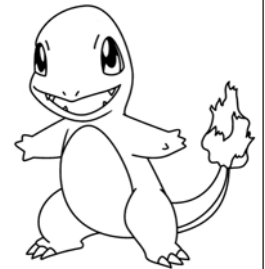
ON THE GO



If you haven't already heard of Pokémon Go, you probably live under the world's biggest rock. And if you're a Pokémon buff, then you probably haven't slept in a week in your attempt to "catch 'em all".

The new game, that's been topping the charts and taking Internet downloads by storm is called Pokémon Go. Go is an Augmented Reality (AR) smartphone version of all the usual Pokémon games which are otherwise played on Nintendo gadgets, giving everyone who doesn't fall into the above category, a chance to feel pure joy. For what feels like eons, Pokémon has been one of the most popular and identifiable games ever, having a fanbase ranging from the ages 7 to at least 35. The game comprises of a fictitious world with different regions that you as a Pokémon trainer have to explore. Gaining the 8 Gym badges of a region, beating the Elite Four and becoming the Champion of the region are the primary goals of the game.

And what happens when you open up an extremely popular and highly addictive game to practically everyone in the world? The servers crash and burn with pretty fireworks in the background. The feedback for even the very first versions of Go, albeit a little laggy, were outstanding and abundantly so. In fact, it's so popular that it's already surpassed a multitude of social media app titans such as Snapchat and Facebook. Now, it's highly unlikely that one can step out of their house without noticing a poor kid trying to wade through tall grass to catch one of the little animated suckers. Forget your neighbourhood for just a minute though. Take a minute to absorb and process just how close Go is to achieving world domination, when people like the President of Israel walk around their offices trying to catch Pokémon.



"you probably haven't slept in a week in your attempt to catch 'em all"

What's more interesting about the game than the gameplay itself is the location algorithm behind it. In simpler terms, most of us Pokémon players will know a thing or two about Legendary Pokémon. They're incredibly rare and are found in their own particular places. This doesn't change all that much in Pokémon Go, with Legendaries allegedly having abodes in the coolest of places. The God of Pokémon, Arceus? Vatican City. The ozone Pokémon, Rayquaza? Burj Khalifa, Dubai. "Hey mom... what are your views on a world tour?"

SCHOOL WATCH

Marketing Strategy Competition (11 and 12):
1st- Neharika Binani, Nikita Agarwal, Srishti Dewan, and Palak Jayaswal
2nd- Gaurika Bhardwaj, Samridhi Hooda, Ishita Malhotra and Ashna Sethi

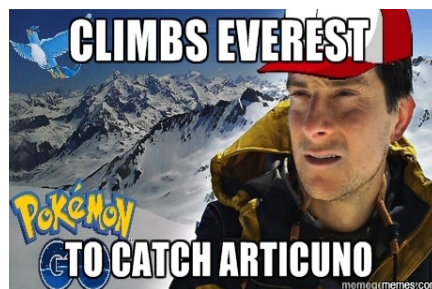
Speed Math: (6 and 10)
Winner- Veeraj Puri
Done Well - Saarthak Khosla, Ruhan Chopra, Ishan Kapur, Advaita Sehagl and Kian Nagpal
Winner- Amay Gupta
Done well- Ishaan Khanna and Manveer Singh

Hindi Sulekh Competition (Class 4)
1st - Miheeka Bagla
2nd - Nikasha Manaktala, Srishti, Ayesha Chandra Thakur and Prisha Singhal
3rd - Saiesha Mishra, Nandini Parvinder Singh and Aanya Sooda

Vasant Valley School won the 3rd place in Irides-cence, a competition based on a Psychological theme at Carmel Convent. Congratulations!

"comes with a guarantee of making you an Olympian race-walker"

The sudden rise of Pokémon Go can largely be attributed to the fact that it released in the peak of summer vacations for most countries. Because of this, a lot of the targeted audience had the free time to indulge in raucous and undisturbed gameplay. The game has a campaign-like storyline, just like the original console games, which entails an immersive experience for all players. However, this game seemingly comes with a guaran-



tee of making you an Olympian race-walker with the amount of exercise it forces you to do. Some Pokémon eggs only hatch after walking 10km, and you can only catch some Pokémon in particular places. So rest assured Pokémon Go addicts, it's doing you some good! Just don't get hit by a car, because that's really been happening a lot.

-Varun Vasudeva, 11

CRIMSON

I had been ravaged. Scars form ravines on my body, scorch marks have become adornments to a bruised, aching form. There are parts of me which remain untouched. And I fear for them. The beauty of my undamaged limbs, praying that they stay their flawless, happy selves. There was a time. If you rewind the ticking hands of the clocks, the whirring mechanics within them, realigning the stars you could see that my body was only beaten this way once in a while. The little children of my heart walked uninjured, leaving their soft marks on my bosom. They walked fearless. When demarcation of a God didn't sway their roots within their homes. Today my mutilated ears, hear the singing and chanting of Ganesh, Allah, Christ, Moses and the like, and I wonder which of them preached to my children that killing me and each other was okay. That throwing balls of fire and letting crimson blood water my soils hurt more than they could imagine.

The salted seas, the tides, my tears of despair. Could you not hear my cries? My despair when you bomb my villages, my diverse hubs of culture, the winding alley ways where one can smell smoke and incense, the babies making sand castles on the beaches, the young students attending school, couples in love?

I wanted to hear the words of the Gods, telling you to stop. Telling you that they didn't mean for you to destroy. Not the theatres of Paris, the cafes of Bangladesh, the turbaned galli's of Baghdad, the dates and Turkish delight shops of Istanbul. That they didn't mean for you to color the flags of the world, the colors of my skin with blood, and then sign the pain with their names and your religion. But it was either the mutilated state of my ears or perhaps it was the still reverberating echo's of screaming people that I heard.

And yet no word came. No supernatural being raised their hand to stop the carnage. And I felt my faith dwindling and my destroyed body being dug to accommodate life less vessels, cold and stone faced, like pearls to an ever growing necklace, that now seemed endless. Love seemed like a bloodied dream, tolerance clawing it's way up a cliff that seemed to grow taller with every attack of terror. And yet I prayed still, to every God, chanted to every deity, and hoped that whichever one had meant for terror to reign over my large reaches would draw back and call out to it's followers, that it would admonish them and return them to me, pure and happy. That it would let the gashes and abrasions on my body heal, the crimson water to dry and for the screaming and despair to stop echoing within my body and pulsing soul.

-Zoya Hassan, 11

BREXIT



Just a few weeks ago, Britain went into a referendum situation where the citizens were given the option to vote for or against membership in the European Union. The entire country was in frenzy because of the uncertainty of the results. With 48% to 52% votes on the two sides, the next day saw Britain's departure from the EU.

Prime minister David Cameron handed in his resignation, his wife held tears in her eyes as he delivered his statement. He said, 'I will do everything I can as Prime Minister to steady the ship over the coming weeks and months but I do not think it would be right for me to try to be the captain that steers our country to its next destination.'

The following are some of the arguments (in brief) that were put forward by the two sides during the process:

REMAIN

1. EU Membership gives the benefit of cross country coordination and cooperation in fighting crime and terrorism. In this day and age security is extremely important.
2. 3.1 million jobs are connected to the EU and 44% of Britain's exports go to other EU countries. According to the treasury report the countries' GDP would majorly fall in case of Brexit.
3. Trade will be uncertain, as Britain will need to make its own trade agreements with other countries (Which was previously already established by the EU).
4. Reduction of immigration into Britain could result in labor shortages within the country.

LEAVE

1. A large amount of funds every year are spent on EU Membership and the fact is that EU is completely undemocratic. Britain and many other countries barely have any control over any of the decisions. Brexit would lead to complete sovereignty.
2. In order for Britain to expand its economy and freely trade with countries of the west and the east independence from EU's trade regulations is necessary.
3. Immigration rise is leading to the loss of control on the borders and there is pressure on resources and services. Britain does not have any say on this under the EU.

-Ananya Jain, 11

MESSI RETIRING



Given the current situation in the sports scenario, a lot has been going on. One particular athlete who has been making headlines for a few weeks now, for two completely unrelated or maybe not so unrelated issues, is Lionel Messi.

After missing a penalty in Argentina's shoot-out defeat to Chile in the Copa America final, his retirement from international football at 29 – no age for an athlete exhibiting his feats of wonder – is perplexing. Messi was overwhelmed by yet another international lacklustre failure. Was this just another athlete not being able to handle failure? Was it an escape route? Or a publicity stunt?

Within two weeks of his retirement, he was found guilty on three counts of tax fraud and was sentenced to 21 months in prison. This had been going on for a while and negotiations were in progress while he completely denied having any form of knowledge of any wrongdoing whatsoever. Was the retirement scare just a way of keeping his extralegal out of the limelight?

Often, we've witnessed celebrities and public figures get away with several illegal activities, courtesy of their wealth, fan base and support. The news of Messi's retirement undoubtedly baffled everyone and definitely appealed to the emotions of all, including myself. Was this planned to gain the support of millions of people during his appeal in court?

These are just some questions that have been haunting me. The truth might be something I wouldn't be able to handle myself, being a huge Messi fan, but this is definitely one way of looking at it.

-Ishwari Dasgupta, 12

उड़ता पंजाब

'उड़ता पंजाब', २०१६ में आई बॉलीवुड पिक्चर पर भारतीय सेंसरबोर्ड ने प्रतिबन्ध लगाया। मगर इसका क्या कारण था ? शुरुआत में मादक द्रव्यों का सेवन और गालियों के इस्तेमाल के कारण प्रतिबन्ध लगाया था। फिल्म प्रयोजकों ने सेंसर बोर्ड से निवेदन किया कि फिल्म में कहीं भी अगर पंजाब का उल्लेख किया गया तो उसे हटाया जाए। अतः बड़ी समस्या यह लगती है कि राजनीतिक दलों व शिरोमणि अकाली दल के दबाव के बीच, यह फैसला प्रतिक्रिया से बचने के लिए लिया गया। मेरा मानना है कि जब तक देश की युवा पीढ़ी खुद जागरूक न हो, वे दूसरों को किस तरह जागरूक कर सकेगी? अगर देश के युवा, समस्या की जड़ को ढूँढने में असफल रहे, तो वह उसका हल कहाँ से निकालेंगे?



समस्याओं पर चर्चा करने से ही लोग उसके विरोध में आवाज़ उठाने लगते हैं। इस प्रकार सामाजिक जागरूकता बढ़ती है। पंजाब में नशीले पदार्थों का सेवन बढ़ता जा रहा है और हर युवा का अधिकार है कि वे इन पदार्थों के खतरनाक परिणाम समझे। तभी वह अपने निजी हित हेतु, समाज व देश की उन्नति के मार्ग पर कदम बढ़ा पाएंगे।

- सहज कोर, 9

NEW KID GUIDE 101

Since it's been a year and my new kid card has long since expired, I consider this to be my golden opportunity to give out unsolicited advice. So, to all the lost souls who are now awoken at ridiculously early hours and wear outfits that match the school building, welcome to Vasant Valley, you're in for an adventure!

As an old new kid, I will stop at nothing, just to ensure that your transition is smooth (and I get a chance to share my wisdom!) Hence, I present to you The New Kid Guide 101:



1) If you are a food lover, or someone obsessed with the concept of food, you'll fit right in. For if there is one uniform hobby of Vasant Valley students, it is the never ending appreciation of the Moti Mahal menu. So be bold and be hungry!

2) Never, I repeat, never shy away from participation. Let your House become your home and its members your family!

3) This might be a shocker, but at Vasant Valley, your hidden love for trashy Bollywood songs will find an accepted platform. There is a strong possibility of Daler Mehndi soon becoming your new hero!

4) Stop obsessing over the alterations of the uniform. Despite what you may have been told, nobody cares about how low you wear belt or whether or not your kameez is above your knee. For without you ever really noticing, you mind will soon accept your new armor for school education.

5) The E1-E3 system that seems so incomprehensible at this point, is actually pretty genius, just stick with it and soon it'll become a usual aspect of your schedule...quite literally.

And at the end of the day, I want you to remember, you are doing just fine and no matter how bleak things might seem right now, I assure you that you'll find your way. You'll find



your way to an amazing set of friends, (your own gang of newbies if you're lucky!). You'll find your way to a functional sleep deprived reality. You'll find your way to the stage, shaking hands with Mrs Krishnan. And most importantly, you'll find your way to accepting and being proud about the VV stitched above your heart.

And if you ever doubt your potential to, you can certainly find your way to 12B, and I'll take it from there!

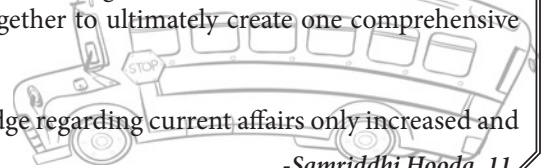
-Ananya Bhat, 12

ABOARD ROUTE 04

Quizzing is an art which aims to draw obscure knowledge from the crevices of people's minds. It is not simply mugging up facts but involves the ability to create connections between individuals and events in the most efficient way possible. Quizzing brings together the finest minds and what makes it different from other competitions is the will and desire to learn in all quizzers.

As part of the News Wiz quiz, we had another opportunity to learn when Mr Rajdeep Sardesai accompanied the students of bus number 4. Being one of India's foremost news anchors with a plethora of knowledge, there was no one better to conduct it. It proved to be a unique bus journey where we gained a lot of new knowledge and dispensed notions that Vasant Valley was not a well informed school. All of Mr Sardesai's questions were met with enthusiastic answers and beaming faces. We stumbled, and answered a few incorrectly, but we were still met with an appreciative pat on the back and were told the correct answer. Questions on football remained a favourite with many people requesting Mr Sardesai to ask questions regarding the sport. Unsurprisingly, all of them were answered correctly. He travelled across the bus asking questions, and in the end sportingly answered a few questions from the children. After the recording got over, we got to talk to him for a while, and he was bombarded with questions regarding journalism and he shared his extensive knowledge with us. This experience also provided a valuable insight about how news channels record and work, and how there are many experienced people who work together to ultimately create one comprehensive and cohesive piece.

Ultimately this proved to be an amazing experience where our knowledge regarding current affairs only increased and we got to learn not just about quizzing but about journalism too.



-Samridhi Hooda, 11

E3

The Electronic Entertainment Expo has truly been an exciting event this year. During this event, a lot of interesting projects were revealed. For instance, Microsoft announced their new high-powered console known as Project Scorpio which aims to deliver better performance in gaming as well as extensive 4K support, a feature not available in the Xbox One. They also aim to release the Xbox One S, a more refined version of the Xbox One with 4K support. Sony on the other hand has given way to the hype and announced the release of the Playstation VR, a virtual reality headset exclusively for PS4 and PS4 Neo, the latter not being given any coverage in Sony's press conferences. Capitalizing on this opportunity, many game publishers have also made plans to re-release their games in VR for PSVR and the Oculus Rift for PC eg. Fallout 4 VR, Batman VR, Resident Evil VR etc.

On to the games, there have been many noticeable announcements which took gamers by storm, few of which was 'action' game Death Stranding by Kojima Productions, open world survival horror game Days Gone by Bend Studio and most important of all, God of War 4. There also seemed to be news of a new Spiderman game developed by Insomniac studios for the PS4. Ubisoft, released further information on their upcoming games, Watchdogs 2, Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon: Wildlands and Steep, an open world extreme sports game (Let's hope the games are as good as advertised on release). Bethesda, creators of the Fallout series, also released information on a remastered version of The Elder Scrolls 5: Skyrim, a new Quake game and a new Prey game. Microsoft announced that Dead Rising 4 was in development along with Forza Horizon 3. EA elicited great attention towards them when they gave further information on the development of FIFA 17 and Battlefield 1, however the DLCs in the latter drew ire from many of its fans.

All in all, this year's event was almost revolutionary, ushering in a new console generation and creating new iterations of many popular titles.

-Jay Jagannath, 11

DREAMS

"Sleeping is the only time we feel real freedom in life, because there are no rules in dreaming!" – Unknown

Have you ever wondered about the meaning of your dreams? The exploration of meaning in dreams has kept humans preoccupied since ages. The idea of dreams just being random fragments of your memory seems underwhelming and very unlikely.

It is said that dreams are a byproduct of memory consolidation during sleep, or the process of reinterpreting memories into a framework in order to make sense out of it and give it meaning.

Dreams may also allow us to explore hypothetical situations in an abstract way, to refine action strategies for future use. Did you know that Albert Einstein once had a dream in which he electrocuted cows?

Well now you know! Shortly after he had this dream he created the General Theory of Relativity. It's said that Einstein dreamed that he was walking through a farm when he came upon a few cows huddled against an electric fence. The farmer suddenly switched the fence on, because he had nothing better to do, and Einstein watched all the cows jump back at the same time as they got shocked.

Dream interpretation assumes that dreams are coded in terms of symbols, motivations and beliefs which are in some way or the other meaningful to the dreamer. The coding is what is expected if dreams were generated by a systematic review of memories related to your personal life strategy.

-Vaanya Vasudeva, 8

Odd-Even In Delhi

We got Odd-Even
To protect us from pollution
On an Odd day, odd car
with extraordinary flowers.
And on Even days even car
with lots of brightly coloured stars.
It was confusing but good
Like when someone has got to cook
from a recipe book!
Seeing police all around
Seeing who is right or wrong
Odd-Even was useful
And got the pollution level down!

Ishrat Jhingan IV – B

Delhi is full of pollution,
And now we have finally found the solution!
Earlier roads were full of traffic,
But the idea of Odd-Even solved it like magic!
Odd-Even started by the Delhi government,
Isn't this such a nice solution they have sent?
Odd-Even was for the pollution and traffic to
decrease,

So that greenery on Earth could increase.

It is from 8:00 am in the morning,
To 8:00 pm in the night or evening.
The last digit of your car's number plate
will tell Odd or Even,
I think Odd-Even is a very good scheme!

Miheeka Bagla IV

नानी

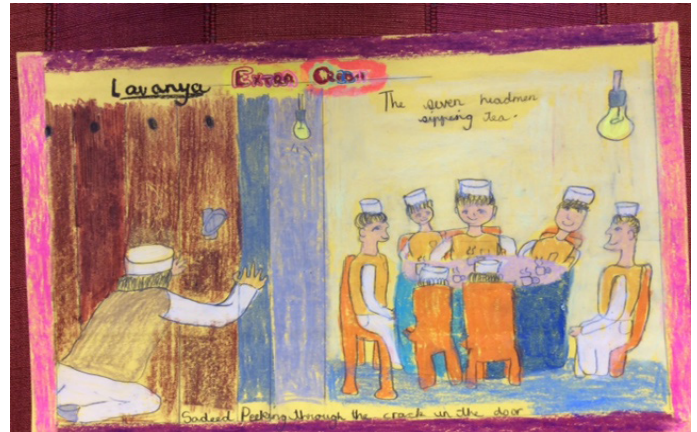
नानी है हमारी रानी
और वह है बहुत ज्ञानी
हम जब करते हैं शैतानी
कभी-कभी देती हमें चेतावनी
गर्मी में हमें पिलाती निम्बू पानी
सुनाती हमें पुरानी कहानी
और है घर की वह महारानी

-कबीर बहल, 4B

हाइकू कविताएँ

गरमी	खाना	फूल
गरमी आई	खाना स्वादिष्ट	फूल सुंदर
आइसक्रीम खाई	चटपटा है खाना	फूल रंग विरंगे
खुशियाँ लाई।	बढ़िया खाना।	फूल अच्छे।

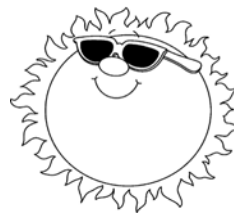
साईशा अग्रवाल पाँच अ

Class V is reading 'Extra Credit'

Lavanya Agarwal V - A



Meet Darsh Puri, V - A

**SUMMER**

Swim in the pool to keep cool
Underground in the burrows rabbits go to protect themselves from the heat
Mangoes are the king of fruits that come in summer
Melons are nice and juicy
Enjoy the sun and the breeze in summer
Remind your friends to wear caps and sunglasses on a sunny day.

Vedant Binani, II - C



INTERNSHIPS: EXPECTATIONS V/S REALITY



I was expecting the internship to expose me to the 'real world' and learn about how offices work along with what goes into making an advertisement (since I interned in an advertising company, JWT).

It did live up to my expectations.

I experienced office life and socialised with my 'colleagues'. And the fact that I wasn't provided with real office level work, was understandable, as you require a certain understanding and skill to do that work. Overall, I was satisfied with my internship and it's cleared up lots of doubts in my head about my career :)

- Viha Sharma

I was honestly expecting to just sit down there and observe everyone as I felt that I couldn't do the work. It was completely different! I actually worked and the employers were very helpful and kind. They gave me instructions and helped me throughout, they also explained more about the field and I was pleased!

-Ananya Dalmia

I was expecting an experience which would make me really understand the corporate world, but unfortunately it didn't. I was a little disappointed.

-Deeya Biswas

I was expecting A LOT more work but it was completely the opposite. It did not live up to my expectations, however was more fun than I thought it would be.

-Ipsha Raj

I was expecting to do really boring administration work. Thankfully it didn't live up to those expectations! I was interning at Swachha and they made me start a campaign to help raise funds to plant trees in the monsoon, and they also organised a summer school where I met really fun kids.

-Ahana Kaura

My internship was much more than what I was expecting. I got my name published in the news paper and my fellow colleagues would also listen to my inputs and let me think of my own stories for the newspaper. This was truly a tremendous experience for me. Yes, it actually exceeded my expectations and I enjoyed working at the Indian express for three weeks.

-Kanishk Ali Khanna

I expected that I would be given a lot of work. Work that I wouldn't be able to cope up with. I thought I would interact with employees and learn about the business. Instead of this I was given a report to write which I found very easy as it was just research work which is something like what we do in school. I didn't interact with anyone and was stuck in there conference room. Hence, it did not live up to my expectations.

-Aman Datta

I expected it to be a little more of a formal interaction with the patients at the hospital. I thought there'd be real paper work to do. This internship taught me that paper work isn't all the work. Here, I had to impart education to patients with mental disabilities. I had to interact with them. It was definitely better than I expected.

-Pranavi Ahuja



-Collated by Ishita Malhotra, 11

THE BETRAYAL OF TWO MEN

Betrayal. Of the two men we trusted to hold to their ideals. One, the most ferocious TV anchors of our generation. A man with hard questions, with expectations of a hard answer. The other, the Prime Minister of our Nation. A man elected on the platform of openness. A man who criticized his predecessor for his lack of openness.

A free and fair media is essential to any democracy. And a leader who is open to questions is the very result of a democratic system. An interview is the means to the end result.

Alas, no hard hitting questions. A docile anchor of shouting fame. No questions asked on controversial issues. No questions on ghar wapsi, beef bans, clamp downs of universities and dalit violence. The only recurrent theme being "Mr. Modi we acknowledge you have done a lot". An interview is not for exchanging love. Its sole purpose is to inveigle the truth from the interviewee.

Several reports cited how Arnab had an approved list of questions, which he received from the Prime Minister's Office. All evidence points to the same.

Maybe the interview is just the manifestation of the decaying core of our democracy. For one man to be known as open and responsive to the media and for the other, to purely gain TRP's.

A sad day for democracy indeed.



-Sudev Singh, 12

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