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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020



WEB EDITION

SPLASHDOWN LANDING

WHAT The NASA and SpaceX's joint endeavour – the Crew Dragon, returned to the Earth on August 2, 2020 via a splashdown at sea

HOW The astronauts, Robert Behnken (Bob) and Douglas Hurley (Doug), made a splashdown landing in the Gulf of Mexico. Splashdown is a method of landing a spacecraft by parachute in a water body



WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT

1 Previous NASA space vehicles have returned to the Earth via airstrip landing, this was the first splashdown at the sea in 45 years

2 The return trip is an important part of the Crew Dragon's first flight

3 After the launch, the re-entry through the Earth's atmosphere is the second most dangerous phase of a spaceflight. The friction of air rushing past, heats the bottom of the capsule to about 3,500 degrees Fahrenheit

4 A successful conclusion to the trip opens the door to more people flying to space. Some companies have already announced plans to use Crew Dragons to lift wealthy tourists to space



DID YOU KNOW? Earlier, the NASA space vehicle launches would culminate into landing at the Space Shuttle Landing Facility (SLF) at Cape Canaveral Spaceport. The space coast site has a 15,000-foot runway, a veteran of more than 130 Space Shuttle landings

YOUR CAREER GUIDE

Want to become an ISRO astronaut? Here's what is required

- One of the most important factors to become an astronaut is how well you are versed with the subject of astrophysics and other fields of sciences related to space
- If you have a bachelor's degree, you can appear for an entrance exam, which is held by the NASA and ISRO

- You should be at least 21 years of age, while applying
 - To be an astronaut, the eyesight of 6 by 6 is not enough. Your near and far vision must be 20 by 20 for each eye
 - The height requirement varies from aeronautical administrations to administrations, though an average height required is from 5'2" to 6'2"
- (Source: ISRO, NASA)

Is it safer to land on water than on land?

A spacecraft can return to the Earth safely in either environment. During the 1960s and 1970s, NASA's Mercury, Gemini and Apollo capsules all splashed down in the ocean, while Soviet capsules

ended their trips on land. Russia's current Soyuz capsules continue to make ground landings, as do China's astronaut-carrying Shenzhou capsules. The last water landing by NASA astronauts occurred in July 1975 at the end of the Apollo-Soyuz mission

What do astronauts experience during a water landing?

Returning from the free-fall environment of the space orbit to the normal forces of gravity on the Earth is often disorienting for the astronauts. A water landing adds the possibility of sea-sickness.

THIS DAY THAT YEAR AUG 6



1926: Gertrude Ederle from New York, at the age of 19, became the first woman to swim the English Channel, breaking the men's record by nearly two hours

1945: The United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan—the blast killed more than 70,000 people and destroyed most of the city—in an effort to hasten the end of the World War II

1962: After 300 years of the British rule, Jamaica became an independent country within the Commonwealth of Nations.

1990: The UN Security Council imposed economic sanctions on Iraq, ruled by Saddam Hussein, for its invasion of Kuwait, four days earlier.

2012: NASA's robotic vehicle Curiosity (also called Mars Science Laboratory) landed on Mars, and soon began transmitting images of the planet's surface

(Source: Britannica.com)

NEWS IN BRIEF

CLICK HERE FOR MORE

IIT, KGP researchers awarded for generating power from wet clothes

A group of researchers from IIT, Kharagpur has been conferred the 'Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020' for developing a mechanism for generating electricity from wet clothes left under the sunlight to dry, a spokesperson of the institute said. Another team from the institute was separately granted the same award for addressing the problem of energy conservation and thermal management in wearable and flexible electronic devices.

INNOVATION

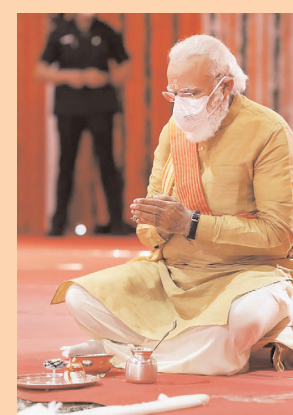


➤ The device has been tested in a remote village, where around 50 wet clothes were left for drying by the washer men. These clothes were connected to a commercial super capacitor, which discharged electricity of around 10 volt. This stored energy is enough to glow a white LED bulb for more than an hour

➤ "The clothes we wear are made from cellulose-based textile, which has a network of nano-channels. Ions in saline water can move through this interlace fibrous nano-scale network by capillary action, inducing an electric potential in the process," explained the researchers from the department of mechanical engineering

Wait over, finally! Modi lays the first brick of Ram Mandir

PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the much-awaited Ram Mandir in Ayodhya on Wednesday



THE PROPOSED TEMPLE

- The temple will be 161-foot-tall, and almost double the size of what was originally planned, according to its architect.
- The design was modified after the SC verdict in November on the 2.77 acre site claimed by both Hindus and Muslims, where the 16th century Babri mosque stood. The SC said the site would be handed over for a Ram temple and an alternative five-acre site would be given to Muslims.
- Architect Chandrakant Sompura, who comes from a family of temple architects, was asked around 30 years ago to design the Ram temple. (PTI)

Ram Mandir will become the modern symbol of our traditions. It'll become a symbol of our devotion, our national sentiment. This temple will also symbolise the power of the collective resolution of crores of people. It will keep inspiring the future generations

NARENDRA MODI,
Prime Minister

Students tie rakhis on trees with 'Save Environment' messages

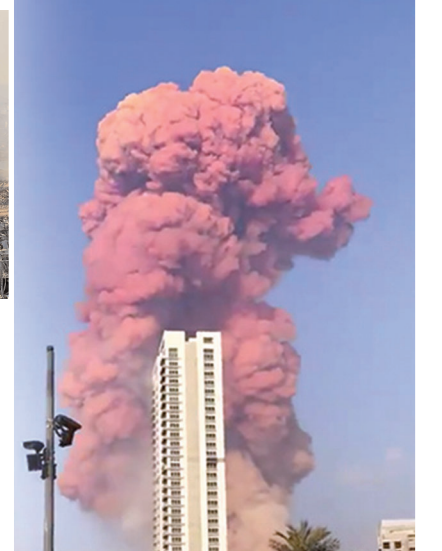
Students in Moradabad celebrated Rakshabandhan in a unique way by tying rakhis on trees with messages like 'Save Environment' and 'Save Trees, Save Life'. This was done by the students in an attempt to raise awareness about the environment.

ENVIRONMENT



Shilpi Saini, a student said, "Taking this opportunity to spread awareness about the environment, we are tying rakhi on the trees. With the messages, 'Save Environment' and 'Save Trees, Save Life,' we want to tell everyone about the benefits of the trees for the mankind." "With the rise in population, the trees are being chopped down. It is our responsibility to protect these trees; it helps our environment," said another student, Pushpanjali Singh

Huge explosion rocks Beirut



A massive explosion rocked downtown Beirut on Tuesday, flattening much of the port, damaging buildings and blowing out windows and doors as a giant mushroom cloud rose above the capital. The cause of the blast was not immediately known. It was shocking even for a city that has been shaken by civil war, suicide bombings and bombardment by Israel.

BESTSELLERS ON NYT LIST

THE ONE AND ONLY BOB by Katherine Applegate. Illustrated by Patricia Castelao. In this sequel to 'The One and Only Ivan', Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in search of his long-lost sister.



WONDER by R J Palacio. A boy with a facial deformity starts a school



DIARY OF AN AWESOME FRIENDLY KID by Jeff Kinney. Greg's best friend Rowley Jefferson writes his own diary



WINGS OF FIRE: LEGENDS: DRAGONSLAYER, by Tui T Sutherland. Ivy, Leaf and Wren fight for the survival of the human race against the dragons



A TALE OF MAGIC..., by Chris Colfer. In a world, where magic is outlawed and women are forbidden to read, Brystal Evergreen defies the odds



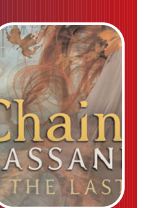
AVATAR, THE LAST AIRBENDER: THE SHADOW OF KYOSHI by FC Yee. Kyoshi must stop a mysterious threat that emerges from the Spirit World



HAWK by James Patterson. Ten years after Maximum Ride, a new hero emerges in a post-apocalyptic New York City



CHAIN OF GOLD by Cassandra Clare. Cordelia battles demons in a quarantined London, unlike things, she's encountered before



CLAP WHEN YOU LAND by Elizabeth Acevedo. Unknown to each other, two sisters meet, when their father dies in a plane crash



SCHOOL TOPPERS SHARE SUCCESS STORIES

BIRLA HIGH SCHOOL (CLASS XII)

KINJAWL BHATTACHARYYA

CBSE XII, Science, 98%

Key Challenges: Saying that I never felt any challenge and hence no question of tackling the same, will be nothing less than oversimplifying the hurdles to be cleared by all for passing this crucial stage of academic career successfully. It will be appreciated that at this stage most of the students stand outside the gate of the castle of prosperity, their efforts for passing Class XII Board examination will decide whether they will be allowed entry inside, though separate set screening tests will decide in which trade/ stream they will be given admission. Hence, the key and primary challenge is time management. Secondly, one needs to do effort-management depending on his liking and expertise in a particular subject/chapter vis-a-vis the weightage being given to the said subject/chapter in the examination. Thirdly, for memorising the vast chapters, I used to read it without stopping to learn the meaning, during second reading I used to decipher the intensive and core meaning, during subsequent 2-3 readings I used to enjoy the topic. Fourthly few days before examination I used to practice writing the topic on which there is probability of getting descriptive questions. Fifthly the subjects based on problem solving need to be practised daily. Sixthly all the examinations right from the first unit/ class test needs to be taken seriously. Seventhly, the projects should be done personally as it gives immense opportunity to diversify one's dimension without losing the focus on the priorities. Eighthly the study leave period should be utilised properly and sleep management is another key challenge, as it tends to change the body clock and may hamper performance during the examinations. Ninthly please don't ignore the class studies and the important points highlighted by the teachers during the classes. Lastly little bit (couple of minutes) of meditation daily helps in pushing aside the tension and anxiety.

Dealing with pressure: I have been fortunate enough to get very experienced teachers and wise elders in the family, who constantly guided me in planning my studies. Proper planning then is required to be complimented by sincere efforts i.e. serious self study for 3-4 hours daily excluding school hours. At the time of preparation one



should not shy away from doubt clearing for which our teachers always remain cooperative. Another thing, may not be precisely related to our curriculum, elders in my family always used to encourage me by quoting some slokas of Bhagvad Gita that do your duty but do not be concerned about the results and leave it to the Almighty. I found it very useful not for its spiritual part but for the practical aspect that in case the mind is preoccupied too much with the results, the resultant anxiety will affect the attention.

My Motivation : I always used to whisper to myself that every single step is important for climbing a hill and no effort, however trivial it may be, made in life is wasted. Every lesson learnt becomes handy at some stage in life. One should not be careless to invite failures, but in case it was inevitable at some stage, I analysed my performance to plug the loopholes in my preparation.

Balancing academics with ECA: To be frank I need not take care of this aspect as my parents always kept a close watch on my activities so that I don't lose focus on my studies and over-allocate time for other activities like sports, net surfing, watching movies etc.

Advice To Future Aspirants: Please enjoy learning and don't consider it as something imposed on you. Try to identify the subjects you love and take that stream and not the one being prescribed by others. Once you pick the subjects you love there will be a sense of belonging, mechanical and artificial approaches will vanish.

Future Plans: I wish to get admitted in some reputed IIT, IIT or NIT for engineering course in either Computer Science or Electrical.

NAMAN BHUTORIA

CBSE XII, Commerce, 97.8%

Study Plan: I think every student's study plan should be according to his/her daily habits. Usually, I prefer starting my studies early in the morning. I would wake up at 7 in the morning and learn theory portions till 3 in the afternoon with a 15 minute break every 2 hours. After taking my lunch, I would start practicing mathematics and accountancy. On some days when I didn't feel like learning theory subjects, I would do only mathematics and accountancy.



Key Challenges: The challenges that I faced were not related to my studies but my sleep schedule. In the early days of my preparation even though I planned an eight-hour sleep, I used to fall asleep during the day. To tackle this problem, I would do whatever I like to do in my free time an hour before sleeping. It would help me relax.

Dealing with pressure: It is obvious that there will be pressure from the people closest to you. Dealing with pressure varies from person to person. I didn't let pressure make me nervous by instilling self-confidence. I believed in myself and never let others' expectations make me lose my focus.

Motivating myself: Board exams are a pretty motivating factor. But getting into my dream college which required high percentage of marks also motivated me to perform well.

Balancing academics with ECA: I enjoyed my last year in school without losing my focus in my academics. I believe self-control is a very important factor in life and I have always tried to balance my leisure time with my studies.

Advice To Future Aspirants: I would like to tell my juniors that marks don't define success in life. They should not approach exams with fear but see it as an opportunity to test their intelligence as many questions in the exams are application based. They should write the answers in their own words and not use bookish language. A minimum of eight hours of sleep is also very important.

Future Plans: I have decided to do B.Com (Hons.) at the undergraduate level. I have also selected a few professional courses that I will be preparing for over the next 5-6 years. At the post graduate level I wish to pursue a MBA in Finance.

RISHAB AGARWAL

CBSE XII, Commerce, 97.8%

Study Plan: I studied all the subjects throughout the year giving equal importance to all of them. Studying daily ensured that I got sufficient time for revision later on. Before the exams I practiced question papers of the last 10 years and took time-based mock tests.

Key Challenges: I felt it was very challenging to score good marks in English. Even my English score in the pre-board exams were not upto the mark and made me realise that I had to go that



extra mile regarding my preparation in English. I religiously studied all the literature texts and practiced the writing skills. Last year's papers were also of immense help.

Tackling challenges & pressure to perform: To be honest there wasn't much pressure to perform. My parents never burdened me with unrealistic expectations and always encouraged me to do my best. Also I never compared my results with my classmates as it adds unnecessary pressure.

Motivating myself: My parents have faced various hardships to provide me quality education. Although one will always remain indebted to his/her parents, I took the exams as an opportunity to give back to my parents. This was my source of motivation.

Balancing academics with ECA: I created a time table for studying and followed it to balance academics and other activities. However, one should never be very rigid and sometimes should take a break if he/she is not in the mood for studying.

Advice To Future Aspirants: I would encourage all future aspirants to follow the advice of their teachers and parents as they are always there to help you and want the best for you.

Regarding board exams, practicing past years' board papers is of utmost importance.

Future Plans: I am pursuing Chartered Accountancy and currently preparing for CA Foundation exam.



RAYAN CHAKRABARTI

CBSE XII, Humanities, 99%

Study Plan: I followed the simple technique of positive reinforcement during my study hours. I divided a 10-hour study day before the exam into small sessions with definite, realistic goals (one chapter, or one question paper in two hours, for example, and so on). If I finished before the allotted time, I would reward myself with a 10 or 15-minute break, where I would do something completely else, like listening to songs, playing the piano or reading a poem. This reward structure worked really well for me. I would also focus on the quality of study rather than the number of hours. If I felt that I was taxing my brain and not understanding/memorizing much, I would not continue studying the same subject.

Key challenges: The key challenge was to keep

myself fit, mentally, and physically. After I had given the first two exams, the threat of Covid-19 was looming ominously. However, I did not let that factor affect my study routine. I surrounded myself with friends and family to create a congenial mental and physical space that would allow me to realise my potential.

Tackling challenges & pressure to perform: The best way to deal with pressure is to ensure a balance. A certain degree of tension/stress can help you and make you work harder, but it can easily manifest into something harmful. At one point, you have to stop letting the expectations of others affect you. If you always think about their reactions and not about yourself, it can create obstacles.

Motivating myself: The main source of motivation was a desire to learn and a thirst for knowledge. I wanted to learn something new every day and that helped me in the long run.

Balancing academics with ECA: I never had to think about the concept of balance separately since it almost came naturally to me. I think it stems from the fact that I was involved in extracurricular activities from a very young age. I have been learning the piano for more than 10 years. I love debating and writing. These activities always seamlessly integrated themselves into my study routine and helped me to learn in a better manner.

Advice to future aspirants: Education is not a one-way street. Any curriculum which drills information into your head without making you interested or instilling a desire for a particular subject is not true learning.

It is the process that matters and not marks entirely. You should invest resources and time in the process of learning and gaining knowledge, so as to make the world a better place. Marks/results are just an outcome of the process.

If you truly love studying a subject, you should not stop yourself from following your passion.

Take care of yourself, especially your mental health. Best of luck!

Future Plans: I plan to pursue interdisciplinary research in the fields of psychology and sociology. Social psychology and evolutionary psychology are extremely interesting fields. I want to understand the links between mental health problems and structured inequalities in society. I also want to be a poet.

BIRLA HIGH SCHOOL (CLASS X)

ARKAPRAVO PATRA

CBSE X, 98.4%

Key Challenges: The challenge that I faced was to write proper and presentable answers to questions of every subject. This can be overcome by practicing more questions and giving regular sample papers.

Dealing with pressure: The pressure to perform is always there. I dealt with it by trying not to worry about the results but rather focus on preparing myself for the exams.

My Motivation: I got motivated by my parents, teachers and friends.

Balancing academics with other activities: Other activities are equally important as academics. These activities are needed to maintain the physical and mental, particularly during the times of exam pressure. I managed to do other activities by fixing a period of time during the day where I would relax and go out to play.

Advice To Future Aspirants: My advice to future aspirants would be to believe in themselves and stay focused. Also they should take regular sample tests because these tests will massively help them in their preparation.

Future Plans: My future plan is to crack IIT.



SWASTIK MUKHERJEE

CBSE X, 98.4%

Study Plan: While preparing for the boards, I tried to allot equal time for each subject so that the lessons would not seem hectic to me.

Key Challenges: One of the difficult subjects according to me is English and it was one of the key challenges to score well in that subject. I would devote more time in practicing questions like essays. I also spent more time in practicing toposheets in geography.

Dealing with pressure: When I felt extremely pressurized due to the studies, I used to take short breaks after a certain period of time in order to relax a little.

My Motivation: I was actually motivated by my parents, school teachers and some of my relatives (especially by my maternal grandparents) in performing well in the examinations. When it comes to me, I got motivated by the excellent results of the senior students of my school in the past few years.

Balancing academics with other activities: Besides spending a considerable amount of time in studies, one must also engage himself in some co-curricular activities which will not only help him in recreation but also keep his body fit.

Advice To Future Aspirants: I would like to tell future aspirants to be positive and stay focussed. They should keep interacting with their teachers and tell them about the difficulties they are facing. Class X is important but they should not forget to have fun.

Future Plans: My future plan is to crack IIT.



CBSE CLASS X RESULTS

The toppers from **Asian International School** for Class X CBSE examinations are Shounak Ghosh with 97.2%, Lakshya Jain with 96.8%, Aritri Samanta with 96.6%. Among those appeared eight students got above 95% and 22 of them above 90%. The class average is 79.85%.

The toppers from **Adamas World School** for Class X CBSE are Ankana Dey with 96.4%, Titirsha Chakravarty with 96.2%, Saptarshi Roy with 96%, Suhani Sarkar with 95.4%, Samadrita Sarkar and Siddharth Oraw, both with 95.2%. The average percentage of the school is 85%. Altogether 43 students appeared for the examination out of which all 43 passed. Twenty-one students scored 90% and above, 13 scored between 80% to 89%, 4 scored between 70% to 79%, 4 scored between 60% to 69% and only one scored between 50% to 59%.

The toppers from **DPS Howrah** Class X CBSE examinations are Aditya Ghosh with 97.8%, Akansha Kedia with 97.4% and Khushi Mehta with 96.8%.

The toppers in English are Akansha Kedia and Khushi Mehta with 98%. Abir Banerjee, Jayanta Saha, Akansha Kedia and Sourdeep Dey scored 98% in Mathematics. Aditya Ghosh scored 99% in Science. He also scored 99% in Social Science. Akansha Kedia topped in Hindi with 93%. Arpita Dutta and Sayana Chakraborty with

97% topped in Bengali.

Akansha Kedia, Sourdeep Dey and Lavanya Mishra topped in IT with 99%.

Around 73% of students scored 90% and above, 96% scored 80% and above and 100% scored 75% and above.

Correction for July 30 edition: APS Barackpore student Neelesh Sarkar had appeared for his Class X CBSE board exams and not Class XII as had been stated in the report. He passed away on April 22, 2020 and not April 20.



BIRLA HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES YOGA DAY



International Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21 at 5pm through various online activities. A special live session was organised by FIT India Mission on June 21 to celebrate International Yoga Day. The session was specially designed keeping in mind the guidelines of the ministry of ayush about 'Yoga@Home'. It aimed at engaging children through fun and educational elements of yoga. Shilpa Shetty, renowned fitness icon, actress and experienced yoga practitioner, conducted the live session on Fit India YouTube Channel. The minister of youth affairs and sports joined the session.

A YouTube live yoga session was conducted on June 21 between 10.15 am and 11am for students and from 9am to 9.45am for adults. The session was organised by Happley Fit. The 45 minutes beginner-friendly yoga session was guided by an Iyengar Yoga practitioner.

A short video was compiled by the students of Birla High School to celebrate International Yoga Day. All the students performed different 'asanas' and focussed on the concept of Yoga at Home.

