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Editorial

This time, for our October Issue, the theme is Space and Nature.

These are really wide topics, so we chose only a few specific ones that the students wanted to write about. In this issue we decided to write about "veganism", to bring awareness of the future of Earth and how it would be hard to grow food later on... Also, many people think it is useless to invest money on projects which are related to space. Read about why space projects are necessary in “Why do we want to know what’s beyond”. Space is vast and as human beings we will be drawn to explore the unexplored. Did you know that the Parker Solar Probe is on the mission to touch the “sun”? Last year around September, the project Cassini came to an "End", Cassini, as you know, the probe which was sent to take pictures of Saturn.

Have you heard about the Bermuda Triangle? If not, find out about the mysterious triangular span of water body, where there have been many occasions of aircrafts and vessels that have disappeared.

What happens at a school garden? Gardening is not all that easy. If not for the farmers, who know to grow food, we would not have the veggies that we have in our plates.

The most recent festival celebrated in Auroville was Garba. It is danced in a circle with a lamp lit up in the centre, where women wear long skirts and men wear Kurtas and dance away the night.

Want to read a book? Read our book reviews. Also Leah’s luxury critiques are back with a fresh recommendation on what to watch and where to eat.

Not to forget the comic strips that make you want to wait for more... and to finish it all off, our poems. I would like to thank all the Kaleidoscope team, who have helped out a lot when it was needed the most and most of all thank "You" readers who have been reading our monthly magazine, Kaleidoscope.
Why I like Outer Space?

I like space because it's something I have always been curious about. I often wonder, what is over there in another galaxy, in another solar system? Is there life in those other places and if so what is it like?

I wonder.... is it true what people say about the space-that it's infinite? Is it true that there was a “Big Bang” millions of years ago? Well, what I do know is that there is something out there and one day I’ll be able see that thing, the colors and the shapes.

But for me I like it because it's something different, something new. I like it because there is so much to see and so much beauty, with all those stars and planets to see. Actually, understanding space challenges science. One thing is that in some years we will be able to see beyond our planet and see things we can't imagine right now.... So I say, when people tell you that space is like this or like that... don't believe them, only believe what you see with your eyes.

By Adria
Nature is you, Nature is me, Nature is beauty that you can see. Trees, water, sky, clouds, sand and leaves, this list is endless. I wouldn't lie. Nature is beautiful, but we spoil Planet. We should open eyes, we should understand. Truth isn't far, just one step ahead. It's not far, it is so close. But it's still too far...

Space...
It's so far, but it's so close.
It's so beautiful, but scary.
It's so hard to understand it.
Is it endless, how is that?
We know nothing.
We are clueless.
We are just a little dust.
We are just a little moment in infinity of time.
Book Reviews

Infinity Papers by Anu Majumdar is a funny, adventurous story with the right mix of magic, wonder, mystery, and some comedy. For children and Young Adults. Join Gautam, Marina, Tenzin & Spark, the parrot, as they go to ancient valleys and hidden stupas and to save the day.

#Nospoilers From my perspective Infinity papers is a really nice book. I have already read it three times and haven't gotten bored of it. My favorite character is Spark, he is a parrot. He is really fun.

OK so a little about the book...... Infinity Papers is the second book, the first one is called the Island of Infinity, it is not necessary to read it by the order, also because the author wrote a brief summary about what had happened in the 1st book. The first book is also a great book. It's about teens that go to visit their grandpa in Kodaikanal and end up on a fun adventure that leads them to Dharmasala to save a magical place from being destroyed by an evil team called the Dargate. I don't want to give away any spoilers.....But this book is amazing!!

By Arati

George's Secret Key to the universe is written by father and daughter Stephen and Lucy Hawking. It is about space and physics. I like this book because I learned a lot about space from it while reading a fun and interesting story. It took me one chapter to fall in love with all the characters but my favorite is cosmos the world's most powerful computer because he is funny. I also like George's pig Freddy because if it wasn't for Freddy, George might have not met Eric, Annie and Cosmos. The characters I don't like are Ringo and his gang because there is already a bad guy and he has an evil plan that he is working on and Ringo and his friends are helping him out and are in general bullies, so I find them really annoying. Otherwise I really liked the book and can't wait to read about George's next adventure and learn more about space.

By Kavya
Cassini's Journey to Saturn

Cassini-Huygens was launched on October 15, 1997. Can you imagine that Cassini was in space for about 20 years and in those 20 years Cassini spent 13 years orbiting around Saturn, studying the planet and its system after entering the orbit on July 1, 2004. To go to Saturn, Cassini had to go fly by Venus (April 1998 and July 1999), Earth (August 1999), the asteroid 2685 Masaryk and finally, Jupiter (December 2000). The mission finally ended on September 15, 2017 (not so long ago) when Cassini's trajectory went to Saturn’s upper atmosphere and burnt up.

How we got to know about Cassini:
It was last year, at the end of one of our science classes that Mahavir, our teacher told us about Cassini (like a really short intro about it) and then we were going to look it up next class. The next class we searched up “Cassini” and we found out that Cassini was sent to space to take pictures of Saturn. It was a really good topic and very interesting for all of us. Each class we looked where Cassini was, and after a few weeks we could finally see the picture of Saturn. A beauty.

Facts about Cassini:
Did you know that Cassini-Huygens was the largest interplanetary spacecraft ever built. Cassini traveled 3.5 billion km! More than 5,000 people worked on Cassini-Huygens. 33 states of the U.S (United states of America) helped in making the Cassini!

By Eva
Nature: The condition for life...

Have you ever noticed the school garden in Deepanam, as you cycle past, on the path between Town Hall and Solar Kitchen? Or maybe you’ve been drawn to the oasis of green on your left as you enter the main school gate? Did you take the time to enter this magical place and observe, feel, listen, touch and even taste? If so, you have experienced the wonders of nature at work in the Deepanam school garden.

The garden has evolved over the years and been shaped by the traces of those that have come and gone. As you enter, you see a colourful gate guarded by two majestic stone lions, beds growing fruit, vegetables and medicinal plants, a stone circle around a fire-pit, a pond with one purple lotus flower that opens in the morning, an orchard of ramphal, custard apple and mosambi trees, a little forest, a compost pile, a mandala flower garden, a bed shaped in a ying-yang,... This little haven is a place where children and adults can come and connect with inner and outer nature through play, observation, and experimentation. Here you are immersed in a mixture of structured and organic patterns with fruit, vegetables, flowers, vines and ‘weeds’ sprouting, growing, entwining, blossoming, flourishing..... and inspiring.

The children build soil out of leaves, plant seedlings, sculpt wet soil with their hands, mulch, harvest... and cook. Caring for the garden provides countless opportunities for learning in different ways. Through physical involvement, children integrate a certain knowing that would be reduced by any text or note book. They see that soil is life.... that this life produces and nourishes an infinite variety of more life – plants, animals, insects. They see how a passing bee pollinates the flower which then sprouts a vegetable for us to eat. They see the insects, plants and animals living together, sometimes eating each other. They see how the mongoose harvested the tapioca before we got there. They see how the termites make a meal of their constructions. They watch the seasons and understand the cycles of life. They come to see the wonder and magic of nature and to know that they are an integral part of it.
Why do we want to know "What's Beyond"?

Space is gigantic! It is complex and hard to understand. We don't know what all is out there. A lot of it doesn't directly affect us either, so why do we care so much about it? Why do we spend a whole lot of our time and energy on trying to learn about it?
As said by Edmund Hillary “because it's there!”

Over the years we have had great realisations about space. Some that have changed our entire belief systems and there probably will be many more to come. Humans are naturally very curious beings. From Galileo to Stephen Hawking, they all have learned and shared so much. Every time we make a small discovery it opens millions of other doors for us to explore.

Space probes are one of the primary sources that provide us with information about what's out there. It is a pretty self explanatory name. Probe meaning: to examine or explore and well... space. Sputnik 1 was the first one to be launched. Oct. 4, 1957 is marked as the day the first ever man made object was sent beyond Earth and it told us a lot about the exterior layers, our atmosphere and its densities. Following that mission, there have been more than 1000 other things sent out into space.

The Parker Probe and Cassini are some that have been mentioned in further detail inside this issue.

One of the most recent discoveries was the Exo moon. Through the Hubble Telescope, that focuses on studying other stars and its planets, scientists seemed to notice a particularly large celestial body that in particular intervals covers a bit of our view on an Exoplanet Kepler1625b (planet surrounding another star). Which makes a high possibility for it to be a moon. Outside our solar system! A moon the size of Neptune! We believe an exterior body collided with Earth and broke a chunk of it, which eventually became our moon. The Kepler1625b has a very similar ratio of its size to the moon but it is a gaseous planet, not rocky. Raising a lot of questions about its origin.

Their is so much to know but also so many unanswered questions. It was super fun to research about and I love when our teacher brings up recent missions and discoveries in class. So, I hope this sparked a sense of curiosity in you to know more about space.

By Vyomini
Stars and Constellations

First of all let's see what are stars and constellations in the dictionary. Dictionary says that star is a large ball of burning gas in outer space, and constellation is a group of stars that form a pattern and has a name. So it means that constellation is group of huge balls of burning gas... doesn't sound so romantic as it seems from far away.

It's not a secret that the closest star to Earth is Sun, but it also doesn't seem so dangerous as it is. Luckily for us we are at the perfect spot.

Most probably you know what are “Zodiac signs”, if you don't know they are 12 constellations that are “tied” in a ring around Earth. Each person has their own zodiac sign, and by that sign you can tell something about their personality.

These are the signs:

1. Aries - Ram 7. Libra - Scales
2. Taurus - Bull 8. Scorpio - Scorpion
5. Leo - Lion 11. Aquarius - Water-Bearer

Elements:
All zodiac signs have an element.
Fire: Aries, Leo, Sagittarius  Air: Gemini, Libra, Aquarius
Earth: Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn  Water: Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces

By Dunia

Parker Solar Probe
Parker solar probe was launched on August 12, 2018 and it was announced in 2009 and it became the first NASA (National Aeronautic Space Administration) spacecraft named after a living person, Eugene Parker. Parker probe will be the first ever mission to “touch” the sun. The spacecraft is about the size of a car. Parker probe will travel directly into the Sun's atmosphere about 4 million miles from the surface. Parker probe will orbit around sun in 700,000 mph that’s fast enough to travel Philadelphia to Washington, D.C in one second. When spacecraft reaches the closest to sun, it faces 1,377°C in the front. On the final three orbits, Parker Solar Probe flies to within 3.8 million miles of the Sun's surface, more than seven times closer than the current record holder for a close solar pass by Sun.

By Rudra
Interview with Min on Being a Vegan

What is Veganism?
Veganism is a type of diet, in which you don't eat dairy and animal products. And there are few vegans that believe eating honey is not vegan, because by eating honey, you are taking their food away. I wanted to know more about veganism so I interviewed Min, who has been following a vegan diet for the past twelve years.

Why are you vegan?
He has three major reasons for being a vegan....

1) Veganism has helped him immensely to stay healthy. There are many studies on Veganism, there is one which is called the “China Study”. They have have compared people who eat meat or any other animal products and they have found that people who are vegan are much healthier and have less health issues. Nowadays a lot of celebrities have turned Vegan. (Personal health)

2) The second reason is that just like us all mammals have the same nervous and pain system like us. Now research also indicates that just like us animals also feel pain. Just like human beings we should treat animals and not give them unnecessary sufferings. There are so many people going on strikes, protesting and even dying, in order to protect whales, dolphins, orangutans, gorillas and many other animals because they feel compassion. (Sympathy for other beings because they suffer like us)

3) Last but not the least. There are soon going to be nine billion living on Earth, particularly in India which is a very small country compared to the number of people there are. It is far easier to provide nutrition to a Vegan than to a Vegetarian or Non-Vegetarian, in terms of of the amount of energy, water, land and toxic materials that it takes to feed a Vegetarian or Non-Vegetarian is significantly higher than feeding a Vegan. In the west there are crops grown to feed the cows, like maize and soya beans. If you eat 100 grams of soya beans, you receive a lot of energy, instead if the same amount is fed to a cow half of its nutrients goes in their waste and very little comes in the milk. So we are using a process to get the same nutrient which is very inefficient. Why would you do that! Just for the taste?. There are many new technologies which are coming out, where you are able to make milk out of yeast. There are also patties made of vegetables yet they taste and look like meat, it is called the "impossible burger". There is no need, especially in this growing population if we all become Vegan or at least Vegetarian, then we can feed a lot more people. Food is going to be very difficult to find in the future and if you convert all the land to food then there will be no forests and animals left. This compromise has to be made where we start growing things, which does not need too many resources. (HUMANITY)
Isn't it expensive to be Vegan?
It is quite cheap if you go without fads. The best and cheapest source of protein is chickpeas and green lentils. You don’t need fancy tofu! If you want to be Vegan or follow any type of diet it’s best if it’s local and grown easily, that way it is cheap. But if you want to have a fancy vegetable which is not grown easily, it is going to be expensive.

What are the health benefits/advantages of being Vegan?
I have heard a lot of people tell me that I won’t get all the proteins and calcium that is needed for my body if I don’t have dairy products or meat. That’s not true. One can get calcium and proteins from so many other resources. The richest source of calcium is sesame. There are many ways to use sesame. The problem today is not lack of nutrition. More people die because of high blood pressure, obesity, and overweight. Horses only eat oats and grass and that’s vegan! They are able to be so strong with the same diet, same goes for elephants and hippopotamuses, they too are Vegan.
(This is a personal opinion)
1) I feel lighter
2) I am able to focus more
3) I think I recover much faster when I am ill since I became Vegan.

What are the disadvantages of being Vegan?
We have to be watchful for having enough vitamin “B12” and vitamin “D”. And sometimes it is hard to socialize with people.

Have you ever wanted to go back to what your diet used to be before you turned Vegan?
Never, for two reasons...
1. Anytime I see meat, fish or dairy products, I just see an animal at the end, I simply cannot eat.
2. I have lost taste. I don't miss that taste anymore though I miss having Shrikhand (It's a traditional sweet from India, made with curd) and chocolates but there are vegan chocolates available now.

Do you disapprove people who eat meat and dairy products?
I want to create awareness, you cannot force anyone.
What to eat is a personal decision.
And it's better if it comes from within to change.

By Sana
The Mysterious Bermuda Triangle

What is the Bermuda Triangle?
It is an area of ocean spanning from the coast of Florida then to Bermuda, then finally in Puerto Rico, which when you look at it on a map or globe it undoubtedly looks like a triangle. So what's so special about this triangle? Well, within the Bermuda Triangle there has been countless disappearances of aircraft, vessels, most with very grim stories. One of the most prominent cases of these disappearances was the disappearance of flight 19, which was a squadron of 5 TBM avengers torpedo bombers that disappeared on December 5, 1945. The squadron's flight plan was scheduled to take them due East from fort Lauderdale for 141 miles (227 km), North for 73 miles (117 km), and then back over a final 140-mile (230-kilometer) leg to complete the exercise. The flight never returned to the base.

The disappearance is attributed by Navy investigators to navigational error leading to the aircraft running out of fuel. One of the search and rescue aircrafts deployed to look for them, a PBM mariner with a 13-man crew, which also disappeared. A tanker off the coast of Florida reported seeing an explosion and observing a widespread oil slick when fruitlessly searching for survivors. Some conspiracy theorists believe in a supernatural explanation for these cases, they say that that one explanation pins the blame on leftover technology from the mythical lost continent of Atlantis, causing some kind of stir in the ocean.

But personally I prefer to stick with the scientific explanation for these occurrences which are hurricanes. Hurricanes are extremely strong and powerful rotating winds that utterly obliterate everything and everyone in its path. It is not uncommon for aircraft vessels to fall prey to this hazardous occurrence. Could this incident just be one more example of the forever dreaded hurricane flu?

By Lamo
Kindness Circle: Creating Space in the Heart

“Values cannot be taught, they can only be caught.”
We have been holding weekly Kindness Circles with 9 and 10-year-olds in Deepanam for the past year and a half – it typically involves facilitating a dialogue around kindness by sharing inspiring videos and stories, a group reflection where all the children are encouraged to share and follow it up with a kindness experiment where the group gets to put these ideas into action! It’s simple, and yet, we’ve seen that the mere act of holding space, spreading smiles at home, school and the community and sharing stories creates a beautiful opportunity for authentic connection to emerge and for inner transformation. Kindness Circle is a space where children share from their heart and learn more about their own nature. Our intention is to keep planting seeds of goodness and generosity knowing that each seed will take its own time to sprout.

Here’s what our children have to say about their experience so far.

My favorite Kindness Circle was when Nimo came to our school. I like him because he is a very kind person and open to everyone. I like his songs very much. (Edgar & Aadithya)

I like Kindness Circles because it makes me feel happy. It’s really fun, we meet new people and learn new things. A recent act of kindness I did was to feed a dog in my community. (Aadi)

I liked Karma Kitchen because we served food to the parents, students, and teachers of Deepanam school. I also liked the time we cleaned the bikes of the teachers and put notes with happy messages on them. I learned that if I am kind, I get kindness back. (Kiyo)

I enjoyed going to Pour Tous and doing acts of kindness like Free hugs, giving cards with kind messages and massaging shoulders of the staff at PTDC. It was also fun giving lemon juice to workers who created the new bus stop opposite Solar kitchen. (Ren & Turiya)

I surprised two of my teachers by doing an act of kindness for them. Sshhh, they don’t know ☺ (Jiya and Leila)

I get angry easily if someone teases me and I wanted to hit him/her back. Now I try to forgive them. (Kishore)

In my community, there is an old man, he is very kind. He sometimes gives sweets, cookies, and juice to me and other children. (Egor)

Kindness circle is one of my favorite classes because of its kindness! Here I can be what I want to be and think positive. (Samaiel)

My friend who is in Moscow is very kind and does many things to make me happy. The girls in my school are very kind too. (Maiia)

My favorite Kindness circle was when we went to Solar kitchen and held up “Smile” posters and hugged people. (Isha & Dhriti)

We listen to songs and watch videos on random acts of kindness from around the world. We enjoy watching them again and again. (Gokul & Auro)
Garba

Garba is a form of dance which originated in the state of Gujarat in India. Many traditional Garbas are performed around centrally lit lamp or a picture or statue of the Goddess Shakti. The circular and spiral figures of Garba have similarities to other spiritual dances, such as those of Sufi culture (garba being an earlier tradition). Traditionally, it is performed during the nine-day Hindu festival, Navaratri (nava ratri - Nava=9, ratri=night).

Typically, Garba has fluid movements and clapping in unison. However, it has evolved over time and many new steps have been added. The dance is accompanied with folk music. The rhythm is kept by a dholi or drummer and singers sing Gujarati songs on the nine goddesses or Krishna.

The traditional costume of the Garba dancer includes shades of red, pink, yellow, orange and brightly colored chanya choli or (long skirt and blouse) ghagra choli. The accessories include heavy jewellery such as necklaces, sparkling bangles, waist belts and long oxidized earrings. Traditionally men wear an ethnic kedia and a pyjama or a dhoti with an oxidized bracelet kada and necklace.

Garba is a loved dance form of all Gujaratis. In Auroville, it is celebrated for two nights and has become a symbol of our collective aspiration for human unity where people from different cultures come together and move together in harmony.
Welcome to my food review. In this review we, or more accurately I, strive to answer your life long question: "To go or not to go".
This month I went to the **Neem Tree**, a restaurant in Auroville where I enjoyed the taste of Indian food. Something that stood out was the use of upcycled items giving a vibrant, bouncy, and homely atmosphere, or 'vibe' as some people call it.
There are several tables giving you the choice to be secluded or sociable. For my meal I chose a chocolate dosa, and it was delicious! I would recommend the Neem Tree.

Thanks for reading Leah's Luxury Culinary Critique. I'm not going to tell you which restaurant I will be visiting next month. You won't get it out of me! Okay, fine. Don't tell anyone. The next critique will be about "Naturellement" Shhh; you said you wouldn't tell. That's all for this month.

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**Leah's Luxury Sitcom Critique**

Over the months I shall talk about some of my favorite shows and guess what, most of them are sitcoms (the rest of them are either comedies or dramas). This month I will tell you about wait for it.....  
So Awkward! Which by the way is by far my favorite show.

It's about three best friends: Lily Hampton, Jas Salford and Martha Fitzgerald. Did you know, in the first episode I watched, I actually thought that Martha was an alien because she and her mother didn't know how to cry, but later I found out that Martha is too sciency for feelings (that's what she thinks). Lily is the normal one (what she thinks) yeah she may possibly obsess about things (such as cleverness/Rob/Matt) and gets angry quite easily but hey she's still my favorite! Jas is the crazy one (she thinks she's crazy-fun but she's really crazy-weird) her ideas entail: keeping locusts as pets (called Locy and Custy), going on hunger strike (when she loves food more than life itself) she even names her spots! Some of my favorite episodes include: Totes Emosh, P.S.H.E. hee hee, hormone horror, Ms perfect and my absolute best is MEGASAURUS! See you next month! 

50 STARS
can I nicely ask him to let my sister go?
I mean, humans seem to understand me...

Well... here goes nothing!

M-mew... zzz

*H-hello?

*Hey!

*Hey!

Mrow!

zzz

zzz

Gulp...

Ugh...

SUGAR USED CAT SLAP!

IT WAS SUPER EFFECTIVE!

where am I...?

???

O-okay! Hi! So, uh, I'm sorry to wake you up but you kinda have my sister here...

So...

I was kinda hoping to settle this in peace. Could you let her go?

Ok. Look. I can't understand you, dumb cat. And the fact that you woke me up really...

IRRITATES ME.
Uh... I don't think you should be glowing that way...

Ahaha... I gotta go??

I'm alive!

Then why did he cast a spell on me? Is he a magician? Did he not want to kill me?
When everybody is placed on the field the mixer threw the ball at team A. Aojin and Cira didn't know the game started. They didn't know what to do.

Meanwhile in team B, team.

Cira: I didn't know the game started.

Mina: What are you trying to pick a fight?

Aojin: I'm not.

Stop!

Cira: It was her!

Aojin is silently waiting for the fight to stop.

Mina: Are you trying to pick a fight?

Aojin: No, no, I'm not.

When is it going to stop?

Aojin is silently waiting for the fight to stop.

Cira: Stop!

Aojin is silently waiting for the fight to stop.

Cira: Stop!

Aojin is silently waiting for the fight to stop.

Cira: Stop!

Aojin is silently waiting for the fight to stop.

Teacher: Hi! Do you enjoy the story so far?!

Cira: What do you think K will happen to the teacher? Stay tuned!

Cira: This is my first story. Don't laugh!
Hope you enjoyed reading this issue of Kaleidoscope! We'll be back in a month with the next issue on CREATIVE WRITING...