Kaleidoscope
The various hues of Deepanam

Have you ever asked yourself: "What is Art?"
What is bullying? Why does it happen?
Who did what

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Editorial

The magazine name, how did we come up with it? An entire class of students, all had the same preference? or did they? find out the what happened and you will naturally learn a lot about the class and our bond.

We also choose to write about a topic that is not much spoken about, bullying. It was rather difficult to confront, but hopefully it can start a conversation since it's a very troubling issue these days.

5th September in India and 5th August around the world is a day dedicated to all the teachers. This teachers day, you could hear a lot of noise coming from Deepanam as the teachers were not in control!

Find out what that is about from the student's writings on what they did.

When we were thinking of the the content for this issue we decided to talk about something all of us love and know at least a little about. Art! While writing, we not only discovered a lot about it but had a lot to learn from each other. It is a very vast topic that spreads around that world. We choose to dive into the topic of how one can measure paintings? also about the journey and inspirations of our illustrators.

But art doesn't just confine to paintings and sketches so we really tried to fit a lot of the art forms we know and share a little about them. like photography, martial arts, dance etc.

The comic strip writers will take you behind the process, to tell you about some of their struggles like finding ideas and how they managed to finish it?

There is also a very beautiful poem included and also for all the aspiring poets, a little about how to write. A very informative sitcom critique and lot of fun quizzes are there on the last page so don't miss them! and one of my favorites bits, the continuation of the comic strip, for everyone waiting.
The name of the magazine has to be attractive and eye catching yet understandable. Being different was also one of our priorities. The first few classes dedicated to the magazine were given for us to find a title that we all loved, and it was fairly easy. Everyone got names they were interested in, wrote them on the blackboard one under the other. We had a lot of options but everyone was leaning towards one “deepanam’s leaves”. Yes, deepanam’s leaves not kaleidoscope. In fact kaleidoscope was not even one of the other possibilities. It was nowhere on the list. So we all concluded for it to be the same and didn’t give it another thought. We continued writing articles for the magazine as we basically confirmed our name. Our process was very slow and not very efficient. We were trying to figure out our strengths as a class which took a while.

We kept pushing the deadlines and right at the end when almost everything was completed it struck us that "deepanam’s leaves" sounds like we are physically leaving instead of leaves of a book. It was funny to me at first as I didn’t quite comprehend what exactly it meant to change our name at the last moment. It is what the magazine is remembered by and gives the first impression. It’s a big deal. The entire class didn’t think of it as a giant issue as it was easy enough the first time, But to our surprise we were completely lost. There were not many ideas this time around. People were not agreeing to each other, it was not very productive. We tried the same method of writing all our ideas on the board so we have a visual depiction of all our choices.
One of the options was “kaleidoscope” alongside many others, I personally was rooting for it, but there were people opposing it as well. We could not come to a conclusion by talking, so we decided to have a vote. It was taken very seriously. We took extra attention to the fact that it would be compulsory for every student. Everyone would have a say. We were all moved to another room and given a piece of paper to write in our answers. Written in the chit should be your first preference accompanied by number one to the right of it, then your second, third and fourth with the same format. Students were called one after the other to hand in their vote. When I heard my name, I started to walk towards the classroom. My classmate who voted prior to me and I shared weird eye contact. It was confusing since he is very cheerful normally. When I walked in the class it was different. Completely different. There was a dark and quiet atmosphere since there was nobody except one teacher in the room. The weather being very gloomy that day was adding to the effect. I sat next to him. Then he proceeded to ask me “Were you persuaded by anyone to pick a certain name.” I replied “No.” Trying not to break into a smile. Next he asked me to hand him the chit in which I wrote my preference. It was so hard not to laugh because I had never witnessed him so serious. It felt like I was in a movie. He make a tick mark next to my name on his list whilst his hand was pointing towards the door suggesting me to leave. As soon as I stepped out of the class, it felt completely normal. It was as if the entrance to the classroom would take you to a parallel universe.

The next day, the result. It was a little obvious but was still exciting to disclose the answers. One by one they were all opened and the final chit concluded the name to be

**Kaleidoscope**

Derived from greek words: “kalos” meaning “beautiful”, “eidos” meaning “from” and scope. Not only an optical device by which everything can be seen with a lot of different attractive patterns, It is also used as an adjective to describe something colourful, attractive and with lots of variation. It reflects our school and students, with this magazine we would like to show different hues of Deepanam...
Bully

bully
bʊli/
verb

use superior strength or influence to intimidate (someone), typically to force them to do something

Why is bullying most common in schools? Is it?

Best moments or memories are mostly with friends or people who you know well, but in a school you are surrounded by a lot of students and teachers, who you have not personally selected, thus everyone there cannot be complementary to your personality. It is very natural to have conflicts. Small conflicts are harmless, in fact a little bit of competitiveness is quite benefiting. When I see my classmates being pat on the back or hear them bragging about their accomplishments, it motivates me to work harder so I can brag as well. But these minor disagreements when aggravated can be very scary and hurtful.

Usually the word “bullying” is used to describe an interaction only between a weaker person and a bully, but it can also be how someone treats their dog or sibling. It's scary when you start to notice in how many different situations it is actually happening. Usually when caught up in this, one becomes oblivious to all the other damages done. The defamatory image set in the minds of the audience. Fear in the people whose eyes have recorded the incident. The now broken harmony for everyone. Bullying is not a disease. To me, it is an attitude that can and should be changed. It is extremely important to stop it from the root. If it is ignored then it proceeds to become a habit and a personality trait. There can also be a domino effect. Some who were bullied start to treat weaker rudely to heal their wounds to feel better about themselves. Then there forms a negative chain. This temporary pride, is it really worth all the damages?
"it is an attitude that can and should be changed"

I myself am not quite sure what might provoke someone to be intentionally hurtful towards a person who is innocent. I have caught myself being a little rude to people at times but immediately felt very guilty when I realized what my words/action translated to him/her, but when someone is constantly being treated wrongly or victimized, that means there are people who are unaware or not feeling guilty at all to even care about repeating their actions. Maybe if we could make them realize how much it affects someone and to show yourself as strong by intimidating a weaker does truly the opposite of what you wanted to prove. We should try to catch it at the earliest stage so it becomes easier to solve. Every fight has a different reason. Sometimes people don't even have a significant argument. It could be someone who is in such a bad mood that he/she becomes oblivious of the other's feelings or intentions. Each situation is different. At the end of the day we are all human aren't we?
Teachers day!

They play a very important role in your life. They give up so much of their time for the benefit of others. They voluntarily enter a class full of annoying. A lot of the times we forget their importance to society. So almost each country has a day dedicated to these amazing people out there. In India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan who was our second president requested that if his birthday was to be celebrated at all he would prefer it to be known as Teachers day. He himself was a favorite professor to many of his students. This 5th September in deepanam there were many memories made. Let's hear a little about it from my classmates.

What did we do in deepanam?

Teacher’s day at Deepanam was a new experience. We, Faith Group (the oldest group of students) took up the task to be teachers for the younger grades. On 5th September me and three others went to Grace Group (11 to 12 year old). It’s actually a very difficult job to be teachers, we did not teach them in the morning classes but instead helped out the teachers. Later on, Rudra and Lamo conducted a photography class which was catastrophic. In math class we usually call our teacher for help but when I heard the Grace Group kids calling out my name it was both pleasing and annoying because the class would get all noisy. Now, I know how hard it is for our teachers, who are being called for all the time. Overall I enjoyed myself very much and got to meet different people and learn a bit about them. I wouldn’t mind helping out the teachers once a month.
Did i enjoy it?
It was pretty nice but at the same time it was also very tough because the small kids were really getting on my nerves. They were just so annoying and they also did not listen to anything I told them! It was one of the most memorable experiences in my life. I think we all had a moment of epiphany about how terrible we can be to the teachers but I think they were very happy to get a well deserved day off!!

Would i want to be a teacher?
I also now know that i will never be a teacher! I have already decided on my future career! It was very weird when they yelled my name to ask a question about a problem that was troubling them, since it's usually me asking questions to my teachers . I saw myself in them. It's such a big responsibility to teach someone.
If you go to an art museum or even search for paintings on the internet, there will be a wide range that you will see, some that are minimalist in their appearance. Some that are loud and intricate. With and without colour. If there are so many different styles, what could they have in common that makes them all beautiful? And how can you compare them?
Well the thing is, you can’t. Beauty is not just seen.
I shall quote Sri Aurobindo to help me explain myself better. “The first and lowest use of Art is the purely aesthetic” Anything that is visually pleasing, attractive and impressive.
“the second is the intellectual or educative” Ones that convey a message and make you think. They are intriguing and considered aesthetic because of their meaning.
“the third and highest, the spiritual.” If you manage to personally connect to a painting, it has reached it highest capability. This one i didn't quite understand until recently. I am someone who takes much interest in art but i could never connect to painting and never witnessed anyone who has. I had heard people claiming that they did but it sounded very superficial. Now i understand it doesn't have to be a very deep connection, it can be subtle. I can give an example of a true incident, for you to really understand what i am trying to say.
My parents went for a trip to France few years back. Where they visited the very popular Louvre. I was going through the pictures they had taken of the pieces there, when i noticed one i didn't recognize. It had a mother and daughter hugging in it, so i asked my mom about it. She said “i don’t know much about the painting but I really loved it because it reminded me of you!”.
My mom, someone who is not very interested in such things, took a picture of this painting, one that she wasn’t even well aware of, out of all the 380,000 art pieces present in the Louvre. Why? she connected to it.
Élisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun, Self-Portrait with her Daughter, Julie, 1789 was the painting that my mom connected to.

Why i started sketching

I learned drawing by looking at others. I liked pencil shading and how it has power to change a simple sketch to something so beautiful. My first exposure to drawing was from my teacher in school. I liked him so much more than a teacher, he was my friend And that's probably why I always loved doodling in the corners of my books so i could impress him.
After a few years he had to go for some reason and that really saddened me. Then I gave up on drawing. I was not good at it anymore and not even interested. Recently after seeing my classmates drawing so well, I got Inspired. I wanted to learn drawing again. Sincerely this time. So during the summer vacation I used to draw everyday. I got Intrigued by sketches of faces, so I practiced how to draw facial features. I took help of my classmates, saw many of their works and tried to improve myself. Suddenly it became natural for me to pick up a pencil and start to draw, on paper, tiles and even carving on clay.
Who did i learn from?

I always used to draw, I was not very good when I was younger though. When I started kindergarten there were classes that teach you how to draw. In the beginning it was a complete mess on the paper, but after few months I learned to make simple objects like butterfly, flowers etc. and found myself interested to learn more. I used to think my dad knows everything about art one could possibly know. I wanted to be able to do everything he could. I learned a lot from him. Now painting class is one of my favorites and I am also an illustrator for the magazine.

What are the boundaries in art?

Did you ever ask yourself “What is art?”

It can be a drawing, sculpture or even a movement. Something big or even very small. Some people told me that they know nothing about it, that’s not important. I think that art is in everything and I mean it. My friend asked me how would i describe it and I said: “do you see that leaf? Look at its colour, shape, the patterns within it. This is how nature expresses itself”….in simple words: art is how you express yourself.

But is everything art? What counts as art?

It is not only painting and sculptures, it has many different forms. like dance, music, martial arts etc, and all of them work to show their individual charm. Their common traits are: being alluring, beautiful in it's own way and satisfactory to your senses. As you can see, no matter how different they are in their style, execution or process, they have these constant common factors. Art teaches you to never limit yourself, never confine to what's ideal and to explore all aspects of everything.
I really liked my dance school because we did excursions to different places for professional acrobatics within Catalonia. These trips were for us to continue training in acrobatics and dance. At first it was hard to start acrobatics because it was so difficult and I hurt my feet and wrists, but afterwards, my body got used to it.

Actually, I love dancing because I realize that it's in my blood – my mother likes it, my brother and my father too. My family told me stories of how my father used to be surrounded by people in the discotheque because he was such a good break-dancer. People came to me to say 'I know you father from the disco!'

So what I advise you is that, when you have something you have to do, don't get stuck thinking 'what shall I do?', 'what will the others think?'. . improvise and don't be afraid that you will do it wrong because what will come out will be what you are yourself and if they laugh at you, don't listen to them because if you like dancing, JUST DANCE! And if you have to be ridiculous – be ridiculous!
There are so many different types of art that it is impossible to know all. We should try and practice and enjoy as many as we can so they don't get lost in time. We are very lucky to have exposures to all there because of school and classes. These are some that we are very keen on making more people aware about.

**What is kalari?**

Kalaripayattu is an Indian martial art and fighting technique that originated in Kerala. It is considered to be one of the oldest martial art still in existence. There are many styles of kalari such as southern, Northern kalaripayattu and varma kalai. I practice southern kalaripayattu in a school dedicated to it.

"Why do i love it?" you ask

Martial Arts in general always greatly attracted me to them and i have in the past practised other combat techniques such as karate and kung fu and they are great, don't get me wrong, but kalari is just so much more....ahh. How do i put it in words. it's just so cool to say "i know one of the oldest known martial arts". After the class i am truly uplifted and my day goes marvelously! It brings a new meaning to my day

**origami**

No one really knows when and where origami originated. We don't really know when exactly either. It was probably invented around the 6th century as paper was brought into places with the earliest traces of this. Regardless of it's actual origin, Japan is recognized as the country that has most developed this art.

It is a Japanese word meaning "ori" (Oru)= fold
"gami" (kami)= paper

In the beginning origami was used only for traditional ceremonies as the paper's price was high. A poem from 1680 describes the origami butterflies used in shinto (A religion of Japan) weddings to represent the bride and the groom. Samurai warriors are known to exchange gifts adorned with noshi, which is a sort of good-luck charm made of folded strips of paper. The modern origami has more intricate designs and new techniques.
Since me and some of my classmates were very eager on learning more about the camera and how to use it, we annoyed our teacher by requesting it so many times. Now every Wednesday in our schedule you can spot photography class written. It is a favorite for many. In fact all the pictures you see in the magazine have been taken by the students themselves.

"Photographs are like portals"

Photographs capture memories, memories that are lost, almost forgotten. When you see photos of the past, you experience it all over again. They are like portals to the past. They capture all emotions with no restriction. They can remind you of bad times that you have overcome and also make you reminisce the happy times you wish you can live through again. They also have the power to make you explore experiences you might never be a part of, Make you view sceneries you probably will never see. Give you a sight of beauty in everyday life that go unnoticed by your naked eye. They have the power to touch you.
"Why am i crazy about anime & manga?"

Manga is a type of japanese comic. The first one created, that was read around the world was “astro boy” around 1951.
Honestly I find it a very hard question. I can't really explain why I like it. All I can say is I am attracted to it. It's as if I get lost in the stories. Away from this world. Even anime, the unique illustrations are very eye catching. I get inspired to improve my drawing skills. It is also easier to learn by looking at them. I love almost all the genres. Mystery in the stories excite me, the horror scares me, the slice of life stories are relate-able. I like feeling that. So I tried to recreate it in my comic strip.

Behind the comic strip

Drawing and writing stories are things I enjoy doing a lot, so when the position of “illustrator” came up, I took it immediately. My first task was to draw a manga strip (comic trip) that will be included in the magazine. So I obviously agreed, but I did not take under consideration how hard it would be to create a original story. I had already been in the process of making a story but there were many reasons It could not put it in the magazine. I had to make a story which is comprehensive to everyone and enjoyable. Which surprisingly is very difficult, so I started from scratch.

I didn't know what genre I should pick. I had so much freedom I couldn't decide. Every step was so difficult because I didn't have any strict rules. I had so many ideas I could not gather them to think of one nice story. I wanted to add an alternative universe and monsters to make it interesting but I also wanted it to be comedic and mysterious. I could not fit all of that in the one page I was given every issue. I controlled myself and changed the story to one about a cat. I added a bit of fantasy in the story and who can predict what might happen next. I will not spoil the story for everyone and I hope you enjoy it. I am very proud of it!
Isn’t that...

no way...

My Sister?

Oops! She’s birdie! I should go help her!

Slam!

Oh... now what?! He took her in there...

Do I wait?

I can’t push it open either...

GAH!

It... opened...

So, up till NOW Sugar, our main character has found his sister and broke into a pet shop with a lazy owner?! That owner is probably me sleeping during work.
Back to school Pt. 2!

[Panel 1] Hello class! I'm your new class teacher! Mr. Cena.
[Panel 2] I'm Fabio.
[Panel 3] What's the back of this dress?
[Panel 4] Do you think we are wearing a wig?
[Panel 5] Too shiny?

[Panel 7] I know.

[Panel 10] Hey Aion, what are you going to take?
[Panel 11] I don't know.
[Panel 12] Sky??

[Panel 14] She finally takes something.

[Panel 16] Lunch break over.

[Panel 17] Food is life.
[Panel 18] Food is the best.

[Panel 19] Let's go to the gym.
[Panel 20] We have Sports.

[Panel 22] Your Sports teacher couldn't come today, so I am replacing him!
[Panel 23] Okay, now let's get ready for playing dodge ball.

[Panel 24] Soccer ball...? What?
[Panel 25] Silently going to the field.

[Panel 26] What is happening?
[Panel 28] What's our class doing here?

[Panel 29] Everyone gathers around.

[Panel 31] In the field.
[Panel 32] What will happen in the field?

[Panel 33] Stay tuned for the next issue to read "Back to School Pt. 3."

[Panel 34] Hope you enjoyed.
[Panel 35] Thought of you by Killy & Z.
Your poem can be long, short, sad, happy, it really depends on you. You can make your poem however you want. You have complete creative freedom. Some people finish their poems quick, some take days to complete. It doesn’t really matter. For some, the emotion and inspiration comes at a sudden moment, so you finish all in that moment. Some take very long to be able to express themselves. Every time I finish a poem, it feels as if a weight is lifted off my shoulders, like I am more free. You should not be scared about others opinions because it is your writing, your emotion. Last year when I started to write, I never disclosed it to anybody. I can say I was insecure, but every journey starts with small steps. Now I am taking leaps. I am writing poems for our school magazine and I couldn’t be more proud of myself...
KALEIDOSCOPE

Sometimes the world
Looks very boring.
Because your soul feels
Like a bird inside a cage,
You need some happiness,
You need some colour,
You need something
To light your way.
Some people tell:
Don't look on the world
Through your pink glasses.
But i don't want to see
Only bad things.
This life is great
You just need help to see,
You need a kaleidoscope
To make you cheer
Welcome to my sitcom critique. Over the months I will talk about some of my favourite sitcoms. This time I will talk about “My Parents Are Aliens”. This series talks about two aliens Brian and Sophie Johnson, who crash landed on Earth and adopted three children, Mel, Josh and Lucy.

Mel is a stroppy teenager who is always in a bad mood and has a strong opinion about everything. (Spoiler coming up) We learn that in “The skirting issue” where she decides to stand up for women’s rights by wearing trousers to school because she hates her legs.

Josh scams everyone in sight although in episode “When swaps go bad” we learn that he knew where the money Brian and Sophie had been living off was and said I quote “I prefer to work for the money I get dishonestly, sometimes I think I am the only one in this family with an ounce of self control” He has two friends Franky and Pete. Franky is in love with Mel but Mel is in love with sensitive T

Lucy is a geek and know it all who is nine years old. She has a friend named Wendy some of my favourite episodes, include the “the crying game”, “Educating Sophie”, “The wrongs of praise” and Sophie LTD”

Thanks for reading Leah’s luxury sitcom critique.

5 STARS
See you next month!!!
Craft class in Deepanam
See you next month!

Where we will point our Kaleidoscope to nature and space.