Back then, I thought that everything would last forever. Now I realize...
The theme for this issue of the magazine was Reflections and Music. In the beginning, the theme "reflections" actually stumped us but, we later on, found ideas. To reflect is to look back at how you were in the past, it could be that you reflected on yourself after a year or maybe just reflected on yourself of how you were yesterday. Many of us have reflected on how this year went by and realized how we have changed from the beginning of the year. To reflect back is to also look back at your actions. If we had done something differently at some point of time, would we have been like we are now or different? That's an unanswered question. Music, who does not like music? Maybe you like it because of the tune or maybe because of the lyrics or because of both the reasons. We had decided the topic of reflection a few months prior since the school year is almost at an end. The topic of music, on the other hand, was chosen since the original plan was to add music as a topic for the last issue but was discarded. This issue has slight differences since we have added the younger ones in the editorial who will be serving you next year.

You shall stay with us, dear readers!

UNTIL NEXT ISSUE!
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• Sound in my ears, music in my mind

Credits

Editors: Gayatri, Kavya, Sana
Photographers: Lamo, Arati, Sana
Illustrators: Dunia, Gayatri, Pallavi, Eva, Vyomini
I see my mind not my face

I think that reflections are strange things. I have thought of what they are, and now they kind of scare me. Because if you think of it, a reflection is just our world, but it doesn’t feel real, it’s like as if it’s not alive. That’s why when I look at myself in the mirror, I feel a little bit afraid. Because when I look in it, I see me, but I’m just a nothing. I guess it’s like that because I see a body or a face, but that face and body could have belonged to another “soul”. I’ve imagined someone else’s behavior, but they would look exactly like me. Have you ever just spaced out when you were looking at yourself? Well, it happens to me. I just stand in front of a mirror and I just look. I don’t even look at myself at that point, I just look through myself. I just look at my face, and question myself; who am I? Why am I here? It scares me. I know that it’s weird and strange, but that’s just how I feel sometimes. We look in the mirror because we want to find our ideal selves. Sometimes we are seeking for someone who we aren’t. Sometimes we are just trying to understand who we are. As much as people say that looks don’t matter. We all know that first thing we do when we meet another person is looking at the way they’re dressed, their physical appearance. That’s why people spend a lot of time looking at themselves in the mirrors. That’s why people spend money on expensive clothes, makeup. People have ideals, and people want to follow them. Would our lives be easier if the reflection in the mirror didn’t really matter to us?

-Dunia
Mirrors show reflections of ourselves,
But they will show only the things you will allow to see,
People will see your face, your posture, your appearance.
But only eyes will show them how you actually feel,
You can be great at acting
But there will always be that glint inside of your eyes,
And that will actually betray you,
When you will act like you are fine.
Reflection is something that will change,
But in the mirror, you won’t see yourself the way the others see you.
You’ll see your soul inside your eyes.
You’ll see the storm inside your brain.
It's already been a year!

For this issue of the magazine I wasn't sure what to write for the topic “Reflections” It's quite a broad topic but a narrow one as well I... I can’t explain it, there are plenty of subtopics of what I’ve been through in the past year but I’ve written about most of that stuff on the spot, at the time and put it in the magazine but now, I kind of regret taking that approach because I have nothing left to tell. All in all, I think my life is pretty uneventful well that’s what I think anyway, but I think most people would definitely disagree, but sadly for you, I shall not delve into such details.

Goodness gracious me! I don't seem to have any ideas what will I do... this will require some thought...

I mean what can I say about something that’s already been said?
What can I do about something that has already been done?
At this point I just don’t know, I mean, someone could discover something and the fact still remains that somewhere in the world, someone could have already have discovered it. Did Alexander Graham Bell really invent the telephone, or was it Joe from down the road?
Did the Wright brothers really invent the airplane, or was it that shopkeeper that always gives you half a kilo of fish when you pay for a kilo? (is he oblivious or just plain stingy?)
Whatever it is the fact remains that nothing is ever certain.
Anyway, I’m avoiding the question at hand, this year was alright I suppose like everything in life it had its pros... and its cons.
It had its ups... and downs. And... I’m avoiding again, sorry! I must learn to stop doing that!
I think my biggest achievement was learning to ride a bicycle. I know I was a bit of a late learner but now I can get from one place to another without falling off! Which is a big improvement? Before, I categorically refused to get on a bicycle!
I’m pretty sure I got faster at typing. (I’m not that fast but I’m definitely faster than I was)
Anyway, since I got better at typing I decided to write a novel
(since the teacher told me to) that is now called
DUN...DUN...DUN... THE ENDLESS WELL!
I got my inspiration from a film I had watched called “THE HOLE”.
It was about two brothers who had just moved in. Them and their neighbor find a padlocked hole in the basement of their new house where their darkest, deepest fears lurk.
I can also swim twenty meters underwater in the pool (the pool is twenty-five meters) whereas before I could only do fifteen,
I also have the longest breath in my yoga class.
I also surprised myself in creative writing.
If someone showed me the articles I’ve done up till now I wouldn’t have believed them. I’ve written so much!
FAREWELL UNTIL DOOTH SHALL MEET AGAIN!
-Leah
Looking back...

I was not really expecting much for this year since I was not moving into a new group, no new kids, one of our two class teachers was going to teach a younger class. I thought this year would be really boring and we would not do much, but when school started our teacher started listing out things we had to do this year like start a magazine, do a play and write a book. When he said we had to write a book I was pretty sure he was joking. But when I realized we were doing all this stuff I found it really scary. I told myself that it might seem hard now but eventually it is not even going to seem like a big deal. I had a hard time getting used to all the writing. But look at me now, I still have not memorized my dialogues for our play which we are doing in two weeks. I keep telling everyone I am going to finish my book, it's just due last so I have time to finish it and that I am working really hard on it, even I don't how much of that is true. I have been trying to finish this article forever somehow I managed to watch two movies, beat my high score in snake game my high score is 89 (I dare you to search up snake game) sorry got carried away and my auto play is on so I can spend 5 hours trying to pick the next song. The only reason I am doing my work is because I just finished my Pringles and I realized that nothing lasts forever and that I can't keep pushing away my work. I got all of that from Pringles. Sorry to all the people who were expecting something when I said look where I am now. Oh, I just remembered I have ice cream. I'll be back ...

Hello again. you might think I did that to use up more space but no, it has a deeper meaning to it. Anyway, when I look back, I really enjoyed this year. My favorite part was writing a novel which is surprising because I hate writing if went back to the beginning of the year and someone showed me what I've written and said I wrote it I would not believe them. The reason I liked writing a novel so much is that when we started writing we were supposed to finish it in one month so I kept writing and did not think much about it. I was not very proud of my story I hated it and found it boring. Then the month was done and I just forgot about it but now that I am trying to finish it I have to go back and read the whole thing and I actually like it a lot even I am curious to find out how it ends. My experience with kaleidoscope is different it is not because I did not want to write an article. I did not want people to read it. I don't know how many times I have written an article and then thrown it away because I felt like everyone would hate it. But I still really liked the magazine because it was a really good experience. This issue is my favorite because I was one of the editors and as much as I hated it, I really loved it. Also, I don't hate writing as much anymore. Well, that is all felt like sharing this issue. BYE!

-Kavya
How my year

I don’t remember what I was feeling when I started school after the summer holidays. I was excited! And eager to meet everyone, I was beginning my second year at Deepanam, though it was also to be my last year. Which was sad. I had finally gotten used to everyone and now the fear was there again, of leaving and joining a new school, where it is going to be all different, the teachers, the atmosphere. It’s like I am going back to the time when I joined Deepanam where I did not know anyone but fortunately I will have a few of my friends accompanying me to my next school. Which is a relief because it is not easy to join a school where you don’t know anyone. (Though it is good to know that nobody knows anything about you if you join a new school) At least for me, it isn’t. I guess it is easier for younger kids to join a new school as they are usually able to mingle easily and become friends quickly.

I am now looking back at how my year went, it surely was better than the last year. It had its ups and downs but I enjoyed it! We used to be divided into two groups last year, and I was in Sr Faith (Sr=Senior), I did not really interact much with the Jr Faith Group (Jr=Junior) except for Maths and a few other classes which the whole Faith did together or else we had different schedules, but it has changed this year and there are no seniors or juniors now and we are all together, in the beginning I remember feeling weird to see so many people in one class all the time and it also affected our relationship with each other! We all have grown closer and it is sad that most of us now have to go our different ways. This year was challenging in many ways for me and it is sort of a relief that the Summer holidays are coming up soon but I am also dreading it as soon they will also finish quickly and it would be time for school again, but it won’t be Deepanam that I would go back to...
My highlight of this year was the Trip to Kerala! We were supposed to sleep by 9 pm. (I think) but our teachers gave up on telling us to go to sleep on the trip as many of us did not listen to them, since most of us went to sleep after 12 am. Which was a new experience for me as I am an early sleeper. Though I was sleep deprived I always managed to follow our events for the next day. But later the sleep gets its karma. (It did for me) I remember after the trip was over and when I reached home it was already 2am and when I woke up it was late in the afternoon. I also enjoyed the treks that we had on the trip. When we hiked up, after a certain point. There was a nice breeze and it was cool. The view from where we stood was amazing!

What did I improve in and learn this year? I have improved in my English as we had to write articles for our school magazine, Kaleidoscope, and I started learning a new language, which is Japanese, I got very interested in learning it and so, in the beginning, I did it by myself and a few months ago after asking one of my friend's mother to teach me Japanese. I can proudly say that I have progressed in Japanese thanks to Tomoko! (Tomoko is my Japanese teacher).

If I had to tell you something I would tell you to… Not to waste your time!!! Time never waits for any reason. And soon you will realize, that you would probably regret using it for no reason. So make use of it well because the time you consume will never come back again!

-Sana
Recently my teacher gave us a sheet of paper in which we try and review all the big projects that had taken place over the course of this school year. That list concluded of magazine, nanowrimo etc. As I picked up the pen to write under the question “what did you learn from kaleidoscope”, I couldn’t. I didn’t know the word that would describe it well, I wasn’t able to write. Which is quite ironic after writing so many articles and editorials. Each word was lacking or just entirely wrong. I kept racking my brain for a word, but alas I couldn't figure out one. So I did what I normally do in tests, I marked the question, to remember that I haven't finished it and moved to the next one. “Rate the experience from 1-10”. Involuntarily I circled 7, why you may ask? I don't know. Because it is neutral? but I realised that it's not what I really wanted to convey. I travelled back in my mind to some very significant days during the life of this magazine. The days when it is shown to the school, the praises and the appreciation, the pay off for all of that hard work.  

When people come up and discuss the article, it really picks me out of the dumps. So I erase my answer and circle 10. I move the tip of my pen to the next question, but it comes right back up. I was so bothered by my answer, since it felt like the 10 hid away every bad day. I have cried because of this magazine, I have screamed at people and got my friendship in jeopardy so many times. Every one of those moments really hurt me, even if they all taught me a lot about people and leadership skills. But I can't put the rating any lower, since then it wouldn't take account of how much I appreciate the magazine. I was so frustrated, I don't know why I cared so much, but I did. And I decided that I can’t answer it, not everything is black and white. There are layers, meanings, feelings. And even though it might sound stupid, next to question I wrote “the experience was all the shades between black and white” and for the empty place next to the first question that I had left, the words were “I made me realise the shade between black and white”

-Vyomini
Writing and publishing these magazine issues has been a very interesting experience. Honestly, I wasn't very much into it, I didn't write anything for one of the issues, but I still liked it a lot. Writing articles for the magazine has been really tough for me as I don't like to write very much, especially if people are going to read it, and also a lot of the times we are given a topic and told to write about it, so I sit in front of the computer screen but I can never think of anything good enough to write about that topic and I feel like the article is going to come out really weird and people are going to judge me. I think I shouldn't make it too emotional, it shouldn't be boring, or long. And then I end up not writing anything in fear that it will come out too plain. But then I remind myself that Editors have a huge responsibility, which is probably much harder to handle because many of us… have our times when we don't cooperate. It's been a very difficult process and we've had our ups and downs, and moments where we just feel like its too big a responsibility for us, but somehow... I have no idea how we are still publishing new and improved issues. We have come really far (in a good way) from where we began. I was given the topic of reflection in the magazine, for this issue but if I'm honest I really don't know what to write about. I really enjoyed this project and I think it's a great way to keep our readers in touch with what is happening in Deepanam. I feel like the magazine has really made us close, and I've learned and experienced a lot by working on the magazine. I learned more about my friends and classmates and facts and events that are happening in the world. I am really glad we took up this challenge, it may have been a burden at times, but the outcome is always worth it, we have had that “gentle hand” of the teacher supporting and guiding us, which was helpful, because if we were left absolutely alone, it would have probably gone out of hand. We had a lot of trouble with printing, which you might have noticed, the black pages had white streaks on them that didn't look that great. I mean it wasn't a big deal, but, it disappointed us a little. I remember when the first issue came out, we were so happy and excited, it felt like a VERY BIG ACCOMPLISHMENT, but then it became quiet casual to receive the new issues. I am very proud of us for coming this far. My favorite part of the magazine is the gallery part (as I usually input in the photo gallery with a few of my pictures) because when I see my pictures I feel so good with myself. The magazine gives us a chance to have a feel of how “business” works. Business isn't the right word, but what I mean is it gives us a taste of how big responsibilities feel. Sometimes I learn more about myself and how I think when I write about the magazine. I really like writing for the magazine.  

-Arati
I have greatly improved in my photography skills, in fact I altogether I stopped using the auto function, I have completely transitioned to manual which now gives me a lot more freedom to express my image in a much more broad perspective, I learned to actually look at my surroundings, noticing shapes, colors, textures etc, which I would otherwise have paid no significant attention to.

I feel I have benefited a lot from our magazine, Kaleidoscope as I had to always have some photographs ready on hand to incorporate in the gallery or the various articles that are present, this encouraged me to come out with many pictures that today, I am very proud of.

This year may have not been the best year for me but it was neither a bad one. I was bored one day so I took a look at some of my old photographs from when we had our first photography classes, and I noticed not only the improvement in my own photos but also the photos of my fellow classmates who also decided to take up photography.

My favorite type of photography is nature so now I have made it a habit to regularly go to my neighboring forest on weekends with my camera and sit there for a while just observing the nature surrounding me, and look for interesting ways of the sun cutting through the tree line, or interesting shadows. Some may find this odd but for me it's very relaxing, and rejuvenating.

-Lamo
So, just to let you know. We are having an exhibition in Pitanga, from the 3rd of April till the 17th of April. Photography has been a great experience and I hope I will be able to continue doing photography when I go to my next school. I began school a little late as I came back a few weeks late from the holidays, so I had missed a few classes. I have done photography before but it was more like clicking pictures here and there, now I have learned how to actually handle a camera, not like a pro but I can take good pictures. I think I took a really big step forward because before I joined photography classes I used to use a small point and shoot camera which doesn't have much of those settings a normal DSLR camera has. When I joined photography classes I started using the DSLR camera, which had so many different settings, and I got really confused, with all the overexposed, and shutter speed being too slow stuff. I just simply didn't know how to use the camera, I used it exactly like I used to use my small camera, when I find something I want to take a picture of, I click. Mostly it didn't come out well so I would click some buttons hoping I wouldn't break the camera and would click again. Eventually, I understood that the lower the iso was the darker the picture became, that if you are taking a picture in a dark place you should put your iso really high, and if your taking a picture of...say..the sun..the iso should be lower. I still don't know how to use the camera properly, but I've definitely improved from where I started, and I'm proud of myself. I have taken some really good pictures during these classes, that are displayed in pitanga. Preparing for the photography exhibition in pitanga flew by so fast, we didn't realize that we had so little time to choose the best pictures. And the thing is we took better pictures after selecting which pictures to display, but it was too late. In photography, we are constantly improving, but it's really up to how the photographer feels with the camera, and also the surroundings and the mood matters.

-Arati
Would I have the choice to decide whether to participate in my favorite sports tournament or to go on our school trip that would last for 4 days?

No. I did not get the choice.

We decided to go on a trip on the 25th of January. The trip was for a class called anthropology. It was a study trip about people called the Muduvans. Side projects such as the sandalwood forest, cave paintings and dolmens were also included. The problem was the date, as I said before the trip was on the 25th of January and it was a four-day trip. I did not want to go on the trip as I had an archery tournament on those days. The tournament was from the 25th to the 27th. And I always participate in any tournament because archery is my favorite sport. So I wanted- No! Had to participate. When I told my father I didn't want to go on the trip instead I wanted to go to the tournament my father told me to go on the trip because it was a study trip and he said I shouldn't miss out on school. I tried convincing him but my father told me he would talk to my class teacher about it. When my father went to my teacher, Mahavir, and asked about it, Mahavir told my father the truth that it was actually a part of something that we had been working on for a while and my father forced me to go to the trip. I was a bit sad that I couldn't participate in the tournament but I still had a lot of fun on the trip.

-Viknesh
My Experience...

This is my second time being part of a play so I was really excited. It was during the holidays that our teacher gave out the roles for the play. I was extremely happy to hear that my friend and I got the lead role of Bilbo Baggins (The Hobbit) and I immediately began to memorize my dialogues. When the school reopened me and my classmates started working on the play and I had so much fun being part of it. But then after two or three months it started getting a bit boring. We had a two week holiday and people forgot most of their dialogues. So everyone had to pay the price, each time someone made a mistake we had to restart whichever scene we were doing which was torture because it happened so many times.

The teacher eventually decided she was going to take matters into her own hands, every time someone repeatedly made the same mistake she would give their dialogues to someone else, cut their dialogues from the play or in the worst case scenarios she would tell that they would be replaced if they didn't learn their dialogues, which made them scared, but, on top of memorizing dialogues we had to make our own props which wasn't hard but most of the times the props would break so we had to make same prop multiple times before it was actually ready to be used. In the end, everything turned out pretty good.

-Moeni
What does music mean to you? How much does it mean to you? Maybe it's something that you just listen to sometimes or you love it so much you can't focus without it. Maybe you like pop, rock or country. Maybe old songs or you just like to keep up with the trending songs. Perhaps you prefer to listen to birds chirping instead. But in the end, we all like a little bit of music in our lives, don't we? Just to spice up the day. Here are some little facts on music that you might've not known.

1. The chills you get when listening to music is mostly the dopamine the brain releases while anticipating the peak of the song.

2. Playing music will physically alter your brain structure. While studying musicians, scientists found out that the cortex volume is higher in professional musicians while non-musicians had a lower cortex volume.

3. Exercising while listening to music can significantly improve your workout performance. It helps you forget your fatigue and heightens positive moods like vigor. It's also way more pleasurable if you exercise with your favorite song.

4. Music is really good for the brain. If you want to keep your brain engaged throughout the aging process, it really helps. Research has shown that listening to music can reduce anxiety, blood pressure and pain as well as improve your sleep quality, your mood, alertness, and memory.

But, I'm not saying that you should listen to music with earphones on all day. The ear can only take so much. If you listen to music, make sure that it's lower than 85 decibels (60%). Don't listen for too long either. Doctors recommend for about 60 minutes a day.

If you really like using earphones or headphones to listen to music, I understand that it's pretty hard to stop using them. Even I need to work on it but it's much better to use them as less as possible because losing your hearing is worse than not using earphones or headphones.

-Gayatri
Most people would listen to a song that they don't understand and would be like; “Woooow! Such a nice song ! “.
But, the song would be depressing or something. Or plainly listen to it casually just cause they like it. Right?
Honestly, I don't know, that's what I see and think. You could say that music is like my second best friend, I listen
to music so often that when my phone broke I was walking around my room in circles with baby tears in my eyes.
Call me a phone addict but it is just the music! Now I listen to all types and genre of music and all of that depends
on my mood! Hey! But sometimes I listen to EDM when I feel like I want to fall off the Niagara Falls. Usually, after
a fight with my parents, I would run back to my room and smash the earphones in my ears and listen to music to
cool me down ( yeah, I think that's why I get ear pain...). It kind of restores my humanity?
I actually don't listen much to western music, more of eastern music. K-pop in particular. I'm sure that there are
people who are reading this article that doesn't like or don't know K-pop but that's OK. There’s a particular group
that I stan BTS that makes amazing positive concepts and messages like: “Love Yourself“.
That's one out of countless reasons why I like them and their music. Their music can mean a lot of things. Here
are two examples of their songs ;

N.O :
This song talks about students being overwhelmed by the expectations placed on them by elders, and the effect
it has on their mental well-being.

" Adults say that we have it so easy
They say I'm on my way to happiness
Then how do you explain my unhappiness?"

So What :
Calling out people struggling with the difficulties of everyday life, BTS gives a rousing shout of 'So what' and tell
people to follow their dreams without fear.

"90% of your worries are an imaginary swamp that you created
Just go instead of worrying
Don't get scared, cheer up
Shout it out, so what, what"
I have been listening to music since my childhood. When I was 3 years old, I had my first music lesson with a teacher. The teacher helped me to listen to different sounds of music. I played different musical instruments. I used to put my hand on the instruments and feel the music. I wanted to listen to some more music. When I was 6 years old. I could listen to high and low sound in music. I was listening to the music of all countries. People singing in their own language. But I don't understand those songs. When I was eleven years old, I started piano lessons. When I played the piano I also sang along. A woman taught me to sing and how to follow the piano. Then I got ready to start to sing myself, I was singing a song like blue balloon song. It was very easy. I stopped the piano classes because I got a new keyboard to play. I play along myself. Now I am thirteen, I like to sing and write my own songs. I had been thinking about to write a song. If I don't know how to write a song. I watch Youtube music song lyrics. After I got an idea to write song, I wrote 3 songs. I like that...

-Pallavi
Leah’s Luxury Sitcom Critique

This month, since it will be the last of my critiques, I thought it would be nice to do a great big hodgepodge of all the shows I haven’t done yet! Just to warn you, not all of these shows are Sitcoms!

THE GOLDBERGS
This is really good. It’s about a family in the eighties going through trials and tribulations whilst having fun along the way.

With Beverly, Murray, Barry, Erica and Adam, I mean, what could go wrong?

2. STRICTLY COME DANCING
Da da da, da da da da, da da da da da~

The stars of this show are...

Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood, Darcy Bussel and Shirly Ballas!

Abhh strictly come dancing, A.K.A strictly, this show has talent, they have competition and they have dancing. What’s not to like?

This is a show that follows 15 contestants- Famous people such as actors, cricket players and news presenters in other words people who can’t dance. A contestant gets sent home once a week for having the lowest score. The competition is brutal and the judges are harsh. (Especially Craig) But, it must be so rewarding to actually win!

3. I’M A CELEBRITY GET ME OUT OF HERE!
Each night for three weeks every year ten celebrities leave the comfort of their own homes (for the chance to earn the title of king or queen of the jungle) to the Australian jungle and compete in often gruesome tasks to help them win stars. Each star means a meal for a camper or else the campers will have to survive on a simple sachet of rice and beans for twenty four hours, far from the lavish luxuries they left behind.

4. YOUNG DUMB AND LIVING OFF MUM
This is a series following eight seventeen to twenty-five year olds who have never worked an honest day in their life while the maid does everything. In other words, their mums! One of them didn’t even know how to turn on the stove! So they all tried to withstand staying in a house with eight people, but the hard part is, none of these people are mum!

With a round the world trip up for grabs is it really worth the effort?

That’s the last critique I’m doing so I really hope they were interesting!
Sugar in The Pet Shop

Cozy Pets
Final boss?
Enter?
Yes
No

I suppose I can use these paws...

So, you're telling me you cast a spell on a poor cat?

My breath stinks.

And you're also telling me the spell went wrong and he didn't turn into a cactus? Who in their right mind turns cats into plants...

Because they wake you up.

He's the cat that came yesterday.

Special thanks to Yong-wu!

As he always comes to me after every issue to tell me how much he is anticipating the next issue's comic.
Sugar in the Petshop

Oh gosh! Now there are two wizards. What if I get turned into a frog this time??

Ren, I think I found out why your spell went wrong and what you've actually cast on him instead.

So? What is it?

Also, what's up with that look you're giving me?

It's almost as if I've made a mistake that even beginners don't make in magic.

Well, I'm looking at you like this because you DID make a mistake that beginners don't probably because you kept sleeping in the classes back then.

Onto a more serious note, you mixed a temporary spell with a permenant spell. The results are...

If this cat stays in this form too long, He'll turn completely human with no going back.
Photo gallery
Photo gallery
See you next month, with our last issue of Kaleidoscope! What’s in it? you may ask... but that’s a surprise.