

JIGYASA

the Curiosity to learn further...

Fascinating Articles • Fun Facts

DEVASTATING TREMOURS HIT TAIWAN



IT'S THE SEASON OF
CELEBRATION
WORLD AUTISM
DAY

BENGALURU WATER CRISIS

PAST
CITY OF THOUSAND LAKES



Now
CITY THAT 'HAD' LAKES



SHARADAMANI X RV

ALSO INSIDE

- Special Series of SUPER 30
- Articles on Trending Stories
- Fun facts



OUR PATRON:

Sh. Mahavir Goel

OUR MENTORS:

Dr. Manisha Sharma, Principal
Ms. Nishu Pandey, Vice Principal

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Teachers
GK Department



PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Always have a vision of what you want to achieve and what you want to become in life.

There are no secrets to success. Its dedication, hard work and learning from failure.

FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL



We look around for motivation but the best kind of motivation starts within you.

You all have infinite possibilities to take up big challenges and accomplish goals.



INSIGHTS



Knowledge is power that rules the world. Exypnos, the quiz club of Venkateshwar International School believes in this and tries to help the students

to enhance their skill in all possible ways. Quizzing aims to expand general awareness, enhance the aptitude of young minds and creates interest and curiosity to collect information in various fields.

TEAM EXYPNOS

Albert Einstein said, "Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death." This is what we at Exypnos firmly believe in. Learning is not a stage in life, but a journey; and it's that journey which takes you forward in life. Enlightened by these thoughts, we, Team Exypnos, are elated to release the sixth edition of our newsletter, 'Jigyasa, the Curiosity to Learn Further'. Go on to read fascinating articles that leave you eyeballing! :)



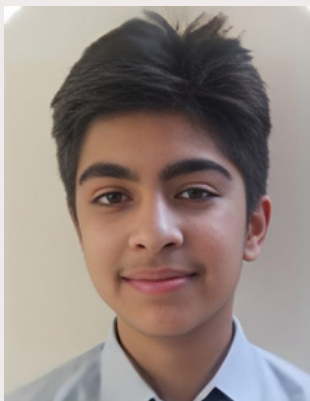
THE CORE TEAM



Harivansh Mehta
Senior President



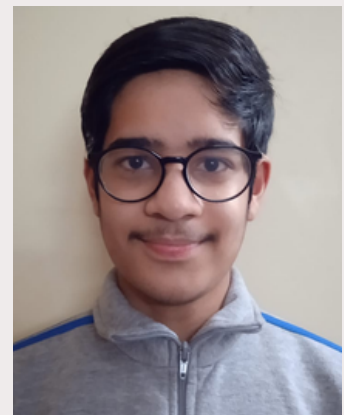
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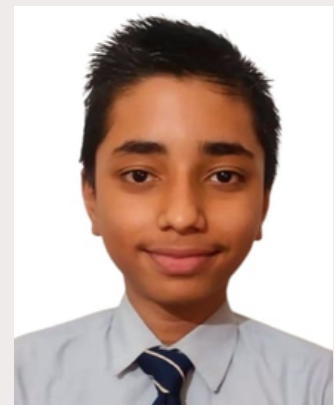
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ALUMNI CORNER



Hello everyone! I am Manas Singla, a VIS alumnus from the Batch of 2021. Currently, I am studying Computer Science & Engineering at IIT Delhi. During my time at school, I actively participated in the quiz club.

I developed a strong passion for quizzing, competing in inter-house contests, and representing VIS in various state and national level inter-school competitions. The adrenaline rush and thrill, especially during some intense, closely contested matches against strong competitors from other schools, made the distinction between winning and losing fade away.

I also had the opportunity to host numerous quizzes, which significantly boosted my confidence and communication skills. Quizzing sharpened my problem-solving abilities and expanded my worldview. I thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie within the quiz club team and will forever treasure the memories we created together.

If you ever wish to chat, feel free to reach out to me. I wish all VIS students the best in their future endeavours.

**MANAS SINGLA
ALUMNI VIS**



Happy Quizzing!!!

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FUN FACT

Snakes smell with
their tongue!!





SUPER 30

BY - AARAV GIRI

1. THE FINANCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS BUREAU (FSIB) HAS SELECTED NEW CHAIRPERSONS AND MANAGING DIRECTORS (CMDS) FOR NEW INDIA ASSURANCE AND UNITED INDIA

2. SHARFUDDOULA IBNE SHAHID BECOMES BANGLADESH'S FIRST ICC ELITE UMPIRE

3. DANIEL KAHNEMAN, PSYCHOLOGIST WHO REVOLUTIONIZED ECONOMICS, DIES AT 90

4. THE 6TH SHAASTRA RAPID FIDE RATED CHESS TOURNAMENT WAS RECENTLY HELD AT IIT MADRAS

5. THE INDIAN AIR FORCE (IAF) IS SET TO CONDUCT 'GAGAN SHAKTI-2024', THE NATION'S LARGEST AIR MILITARY EXERCISE, INVOLVING ALL AIR FORCE STATIONS. THIS EXERCISE WILL BE HELD AT POKHRAN

6. MICROSOFT AND OPENAI ARE JOINTLY EMBARKING ON A \$100 BILLION PROJECT TO CREATE "STARGATE," AN AI SUPERCOMPUTER.

7. PROFESSOR MEENA CHARANDA, PRINCIPAL OF KALINDI COLLEGE, DELHI UNIVERSITY, RECEIVED THE 'INTERNATIONAL CULTURE AWARD' IN 2024 FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICE

8. EAM JAISHANKAR AND HIS UKRAINIAN COUNTERPART DMYTRO KULEBA DISCUSS ONGOING MOSCOW-KYIV CONFLICT AND ITS WIDER RAMIFICATIONS

9. FIRST MAGAHI NOVEL 'PHOOL BAHADUR' TRANSLATED BY ABHAY UNVEILED AT DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITY LITERATURE FESTIVAL

10. INDIA MAKES NEW GUINNESS WORLD RECORD IN KABADDI WITH PARTICIPATION OF 128 PLAYERS



THE WORLD BANK HAS REVISED INDIA'S GDP GROWTH PROJECTION FOR FY25 TO 6.6%, INDICATING A MODERATE YET STEADY GROWTH TRAJECTORY



SUPER 30

11. US, UK & AUSTRALIA ENTERED AN AGREEMENT TO BUILD AUSTRALIA'S SSN-AUKUS SUBMARINES

12. NEW HYDROGEN ENGINE PLANT UNVEILED BY TATA CUMMINS IN JAMSHEDPUR

13. ABHAY THAKUR APPOINTED AS INDIA'S NEXT AMBASSADOR TO MYANMAR

14. INDIA'S CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT NARROWS TO 1.2% OF GDP AT \$10.5 BN IN OCT-DEC

15. IRDAI APPROVES SETTING UP INSURANCE E-MARKETPLACE BIMA SUGAM

16. SENEGAL OPPOSITION LEADER BASSIRU DIOMAYE FAYE WINS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

17. RAMAKRISHNA MISSION CHIEF SWAMI SMARANANANDA MAHARAJ DIES AT 94

18. INDIA'S ANUPAMA UPADHYAYA WINS WOMEN'S SINGLES TITLE (BADMINTON) AT ORLEN POLISH OPEN 2024

19. TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS FROM TRIPURA, MATABARI PERA PRASAD AND RIGNAI PACHARA TEXTILES, HAVE RECENTLY EARNED GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (GI) TAGS, BRINGING THE STATE'S TOTAL TO 4 GI PROTECTED PRODUCTS

20. ADANI TOTAL ENERGIES BIOMASS LIMITED (ATBL), A SUBSIDIARY OF ADANI TOTAL GAS LIMITED (ATGL), HAS COMMISSIONED THE FIRST PHASE OF BARSANA BIOGAS PLANT IN MATHURA, UTTAR PRADESH.



THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI) IS CONTEMPLATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIGITAL INDIA TRUST AGENCY (DIGITA) TO COMBAT THE PROLIFERATION OF ILLEGAL LENDING APPS.



SUPER 30

21. UTKAL DIWAS, ALSO KNOWN AS ODISHA DAY, COMMEMORATES THE FORMATION OF ODISHA ON APRIL 1, 1936. IT SIGNIFIES THE STATE'S CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, MARKING THE END OF A STRUGGLE FOR A SEPARATE IDENTITY FROM BRITISH COLONIAL RULE

22. RECENTLY, UNESCO'S EXECUTIVE BOARD ADDED 18 NEW SITES TO THE GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES TO 213 ACROSS 48 COUNTRIES.

23. HARDIK SINGH AND SALIMA TETE NAMED PLAYER OF THE YEAR (MEN AND WOMEN RESPECTIVELY) AT THE HOCKEY INDIA AWARDS 2024

24. TAMIL NADU GOVERNOR R.N. RAVI INAUGURATED THE PARAM VIR CHAKRA GARDEN AND AIKYAM EXHIBITION AT THE KANCHI MAHASWAMI VIDYA MANDIR IN TAMBARAM.

25. SCIENTISTS IN SOUTH KOREA HAVE SET A NEW WORLD RECORD USING THE KOREA SUPERCONDUCTING TOKAMAK ADVANCED RESEARCH (KSTAR) DEVICE, AN "ARTIFICIAL SUN" NUCLEAR FUSION REACTOR.

26. ON APRIL 1, 2024, GERMANY BECAME THE LARGEST EUROPEAN UNION (EU) NATION TO LEGALIZE RECREATIONAL CANNABIS USE, DESPITE FACING OPPOSITION FROM POLITICIANS AND MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

27. SANDEEP JAIN, AN AUTO-COMPONENT MANUFACTURER AND ALUMNUS OF IIT-KANPUR, HAS BEEN UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF INDIAN MICRO AND SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (FISME) FOR THE YEAR 2024-25.

28. LIEUTENANT GENERAL JS SIDANA HAS TAKEN OVER AS THE 33RD DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (DGEME) AND SENIOR COLONEL COMMANDANT OF THE EME CORPS ON APRIL 1, 2024.

29. THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF INDIA (ASSOCHAM), A PROMINENT INDUSTRY CHAMBER, HAS APPOINTED SANJAY NAYAR AS ITS NEW PRESIDENT.

30. SANTOSH KUMAR JHA, AN INDIAN RAILWAY TRAFFIC SERVICES (IRTS) OFFICER OF THE 1992 BATCH, WILL ASSUME THE ROLE OF CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR (CMD) OF THE KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD. (KRCL) ON APRIL 1, 2024.



AU SMALL FINANCE BANK HAS MERGED WITH FINCARE SMALL FINANCE BANK, MARKING A SIGNIFICANT CONSOLIDATION IN THE BANKING SECTOR.

TAIWAN'S STRONGEST EARTHQUAKE IN 25 YEARS

WHAT?

Taiwan is an island nation located in East Asia. It is prone to earthquakes due to its location along the Pacific Ring of Fire, which is an area with high seismic activity. A strong earthquake hit Taiwan on 3rd April 2024 with a magnitude of 7.4. According to the United States Geological Survey, it was the strongest to hit the island in about 25 years. a major trembler that killed at least nine people, injured a thousand more, collapsed hundreds of buildings, and triggered tsunami warnings across the region.



WHEN?

The 7.4 magnitude quake happened around 8 a.m. local time (8 p.m. Tuesday ET) at a depth of about 21 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The epicentre was about 11 miles south-southwest of Hualien City, on the island's Pacific coast.

PRECAUTIONS

A tsunami warning was issued for Taiwan and nearby countries including Japan and the Philippines. A 30 cm tsunami was reported along the south coast of Japan. This would have shown up as a noticeable swell on the shore but is unlikely to cause significant damage.

EFFECTS

Some 143 people, many of them tourists in badly damaged hotels, were trapped in the ruins.

It was the strongest earthquake to hit Taiwan since 1999 when a 7.6 magnitude tremor killed about 2,400 people.

The earthquake was felt in Shanghai and several provinces along China's southeastern coast, according to Chinese media. China and Taiwan are about 160 kilometres apart.



BAISAKHI '24

By Siddhani Goswami X LD

Baisakhi also known as Vaisakhi is celebrated to mark the start of spring season in India, celebrated on 13th of April and sometimes the 14th of April. Baisakhi usually signifies the end of the harvest season, primarily celebrated in Punjab and Northern India, Farmers offer thanks for their crops and welcome the new crop year.

For Sikhs, it commemorates the formation of the Khalsa Panth by Guru Gobind Singh Ji in 1699.

The celebrations start with people bathing in a holy river and going to Gurudwaras to offer prayers, the chief of which are the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Gurudwara at Anandpur Sahib, where Khalsa was born, and Talwandi Sabo, where Guru Gobind Singh recompiled the sacred Guru Granth Sahib. After the prayers, people delve into merriment and dance and sing. The popular phrase 'Jatta Aayi Baisakhi' is proclaimed loudly in neighborhoods as gleeful farmers celebrate a bountiful harvest





BAISAKHI '24

Feasts are also an inherent part of this festival where the traditional Karah Prasad is a special delicacy. People then congregate for lunch at the community kitchen at the Gurudwaras and after a shared meal known as langar, people take out the grand processions of Nagar Kirtan, in which devotional songs are played.

In rural areas, farmers express their gratitude to god for their harvest and many rituals are performed, seeking blessings for good harvest in the next years. Many fairs are organized where many people take part in activities like dance, traditional folk music and feasting, across many homes. Special food like sarson da saag and makki di roti is prepared to celebrate the occasion with full zeal and enthusiasm.



DID WATER COME FROM



UNDERGROUND?

~ by **Deetya Krishnan, VIII Brookdale**

A scientific breakthrough regarding a colossal 'ocean' 700 km below the earth's crust may finally shed light on the age-old question – Where did all the water on the earth come from?

For a long time, the prevalent theory was that water was carried to the earth bit by bit through comets and meteorites. Another was that water was formed through the interaction of earth's initial magma oceans with hydrogen in its early atmosphere.

But a recent analysis of shockwaves, from over 500 earthquakes, beneath the earth's surface, detected by seismometers across the United States, tells a different story.

Scientists at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois detected a slowing of seismic waves while passing through hydrated rock, indicating this gigantic water reserve beneath. Encased within ringwoodite, a blue-hued mineral, in the mantle transition zone, the discovery of this hidden sea urges a reconsideration of the earth's water cycle, as it suggests that water may have seeped from the earth's core.

Geophysicist Steve Jacobson of the discovery team believes that this revelation may explain the immense amounts of water on our planet's surface.



BIHU

-By Siddhani Goswami, X LD

WHERE IS BIHU CELEBRATED?

Bihu is the essence of Assam and holds great cultural significance in the state. This day is celebrated as a tribute to the Sun God or *Makar Sankranti*. The term '*Bihu*' originated from the Sanskrit word '*Bishu*', which means that people ask for prosperity from the Gods during the harvesting season. As per belief, the word '*Bihu*' is a combination of two words - '*bi*', meaning 'ask' and '*hu*', meaning 'give'.

THE HISTORY OF BIHU

According to some scholars, the origin of *Bihu* can be attributed to the Sanskrit word '*Bisuvan*'. *Bisuvan* was popular in ancient culture as a day when people performed fire sacrifices in the hope of having better harvest. This practice, according to many scholars, was the root of the *Bihu* festival.

THE THREE TYPES OF BIHU

Since Assam is a fertile land, the occupation of the people here is mostly agriculture. *Bihu* celebrates the change of seasons. All three types of *Bihu* signify critical phases in the farming calendar of Assam. These three festivals mark significant points in the agricultural calendar.

- **Rongali Bihu or Bohag Bihu:** It falls in mid-April and signifies the arrival of spring, marking the Assamese new year.
- **Kongali Bihu or Kati Bihu:** The *Kong* or *Kati Bihu* reflects a season of short supplies and is an animistic festival. Observed in October, during *Kati Bihu*, prayers are offered for good harvest and people light lamps to ward off evil spirits.
- **Bhogali Bihu or Magh Bihu:** The *Bhogali Bihu* or the *Magh Bihu* is the one that is about food. It is celebrated in January, marking the end of the harvest season. It is characterised by feasting, traditional games, and community bonfires called '*mejis*'.



These festivals are celebrated with zeal and enthusiasm, featuring traditional music, incredible dances, extravagant feasts and colourful cultural events celebrated among the people.

The Bihu festival is celebrated by the Assamese people irrespective of their religion, caste or creed. It is also celebrated overseas by the Assamese diaspora living worldwide.

The festivities begin with people taking a holy bath with raw turmeric and urad dal paste. Later, they seek the blessings of their elders and exchange gifts. Women prepare delicacies like chira, mangsho, pitha, etc., during the festival.

The highlight of the festival is the Bihu dance, performed by both men and women. It is a delight to watch. The colour red, symbolising joy and vigour, is the central theme of the dance. The costumes of both men and women majorly contain the red colour.

The Bihu dance is performed to the tunes of the music played using local instruments. The brisk steps and rapid hand movements are truly enchanting.



10 APRIL: WORLD HOMEOPATHY DAY

BY SAIRAAH BHARDWAJ-X RV

Before you understand what homeopathy really is, let's get to the subject of 'like with like'. The idea is that if something makes one sick, it can, in a highly diluted form, give us the cure. The first thing one would think of is a vaccine; a virus that makes one sick can be used to, well... but a vaccine isn't homeopathy, and does not follow the principle of like with like. The main difference lies in the fact that homeopathy is used to 'cure' while a vaccine is used to 'prevent' the illness. Homeopathy follows the principle of "like cures like." It uses highly diluted substances that, in larger amounts, would produce symptoms similar to those of the disease being treated. The diluted substance is believed to stimulate the body's self-healing mechanisms. A highly scientific, and confusing term, don't feel put out if you don't get it at first.

We've understood but a part of what homeopathy is, but it is a subject that befuddles the greatest of scientists. In short, we don't know exactly how it works, and it isn't scientifically proven, but scientifically proven or not, its results have astounded with a success rate nearing 80%.

Now that we know what it is, we're going to take out our time turners (If you haven't got one, you may, by all means, continue with the article) and travel back to the 18th century. Here, we'll understand how homeopathy came to be.





10 APRIL: WORLD HOMEOPATHY DAY

You see, it was a German Physicist called Samuel Hahnemann who discovered it. His discovery stemmed from the fact that he desperately tried to make ends meet and was dissatisfied with the medicinal practices of the time. His key insight came from his experimentation with cinchona bark, which contains quinine and was used to treat malaria. He observed that cinchona bark caused symptoms similar to those of malaria in healthy individuals. This led him to formulate the principle of "like cures like," the foundation of homeopathy. Hahnemann began diluting medicinal substances to minimize toxicity while still retaining their therapeutic effects. He also developed the concept of potentization, where substances are vigorously shaken (succussed) at each dilution step to enhance their healing properties. Hahnemann's ideas gained popularity, and homeopathy spread throughout Europe and later to the United States. It flourished in the 19th century, with numerous practitioners and supporters. However, it faced criticism from conventional medicine practitioners, leading to debates and conflicts between the two camps. Despite scepticism from the medical establishment, homeopathy continued to be practiced and evolved over the years. Today, it remains a controversial form of alternative medicine, with some people swearing by its effectiveness while others dismiss it as pseudoscience. Nevertheless, homeopathy has left a significant mark on the history of medicine and continues to be practiced and studied around the world.

Samuel Hahnemann was, is, and always will be remembered for his profound contribution to the realm of science and medicine. To commemorate his discovery, his birthday, the 10th of April, was termed 'World Homeopathy Day'



GANG WARFARE IN HAITI

-By Apratirath Shukla X RV



Gang members sit on the steps of a house Barbecue Cherizier, leader of the G9 gang

The conflict between criminal groups in Haiti has killed 3,700 people and displaced 362,000. At the heart of this conflict are the infamous Organised Crime Groups of Haiti. There are about 200 armed groups operating in Port-au-Prince. There are 2 major coalitions of gangs, the "Revolutionary Forces of the G9 Family and Allies," led by Jimmy "Barbecue" Chérizier, and the G-Pep alliance, led by Gabriel Jean-Pierre, also known as Ti Gabriel.

These two gangs have been rivals for years, but have recently come together in a pact to work together to force out acting Prime Minister Ariel Henry, who took over after the assassination of Jovenel Moïse. Henry resigned, but gang warfare in Haiti has not ceased. The gangs have resolved to resist any outside intervention in Haiti, including the United Nations Task Force that was supposed to be sent to Haiti, led by Kenya, causing significant difficulties for the new Transitional Council.

The gangs in Haiti are a uniquely difficult obstacle to peace and order, because they are incredibly organised and capable. In fact, the gangs stormed the country's two largest prisons, freeing 4,700 inmates. Some even reported that the gangs used drones and rockets in the conflict. The gangs de facto control the everyday life of many innocent Haitians.

Obviously, there is no easy solution to the Haitian conflict, but one spark of hope is the Bwa Kale groups. These are groups of ordinary Haitians, fed up with the gang violence, who formed vigilante groups to defend themselves and their homes from gangs and attack their members. Also, Kenya has promised to send 1,000 trained police officers to Haiti as part of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2699, which authorised an international task force to deal with the violence in Haiti.

However, for the time being, Haiti remains in the grip of these vicious and ruthless gangs. We can only hope that one day, the country will finally be free from this scourge, and that human rights and peace will win the day.





WORLD AUTISM DAY: LOVING ALL MINDS



By Anhad Singh X RV

On 2 April, the world takes a moment to think deeply about World Autism Day. It's a time to fill our hearts with care, try to truly understand, and open up to everyone. It's not just about knowing autism exists; it's about cheering for all kinds of minds and making sure everyone feels wanted and helped, no matter how their brain works.

To really get what World Autism Day means, we need to know that autism isn't the same for everyone. It has many sides, with different skills, hurdles, and ways of seeing the world. People with autism have their own things they're good at, things they love, and ways they fit into the world. So, it's key to see how different each person with autism is and not lump everyone together.

A great way to honor this day is to listen to people with autism. When we hear their stories and what they know, we learn a lot. It's not ok to just talk about autism.



We need to talk with people who have it, learn from them, and help share their stories. Also, we should do more than just know about autism. We need to fully welcome it. This means making places where people with autism can do well, like in schools, jobs, or when hanging out with friends. When we make space for everyone to feel part of things, we're on our way to a fairer world.

On World Autism Day, let's try to look at the world like someone with autism might. Let's cheer for what they bring to the table, push for a world that listens to them, knows what they're great at, and helps them when things are tough. Together, let's work for a world that doesn't just know about autism but fully welcomes it.





AMBEDKAR JAYANTI



-By Anhad Singh X RV

Ambedkar Jayanti is an important event in India, memorializing the birth day of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, affectionately called Babasaheb. His life was truly amazing as it was characterized by perseverance, intelligence and a profound commitment to justice.

Dr Ambedkar's journey from obscurity to greatness is simply breathtaking. In spite of encountering deep-seated inequality and difficulties he continued with his education with determination that never wavered, gaining degrees and finally becoming a ray of hope for downtrodden communities across the country.

His key role in writing Indian constitution speaks volumes about his quest for equality and justice. The ideas promoted by Dr Ambedkar on social justice and equality continue to resonate deeply within many even now encouraging numerous people to advocate for change positively.

The celebration of Ambedkar Jayanti is not only for the sake of it; it also serves as a reminder that there are people who fought so hard for human rights. These teachings have remained relevant generations through education, empowerment, and solidarity that ought to be followed by those who want to make this world a better place.

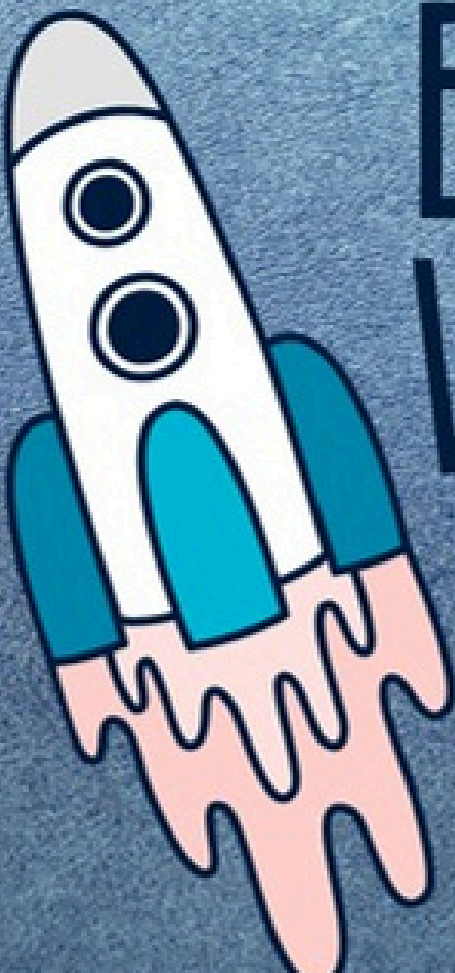


Venkateshwar International School



SEE YOU SOON !!

EXYPNOS VIS G.K CLUB



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edition of our newsletter.

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