

# "The Carmel Echoes"



A Monthly Newsletter for the Carmelites!



Dear Readers,

as we step into a new month, I want to remind each one of you that creativity is one of the greatest gifts you possess. It is more than just the ability to paint, write, or perform; it is the power to see the world in new ways, to innovate, and to make a difference. Creativity allows us to find solutions where none seem possible, to

shape our futures, and to inspire those around us.

This month, I challenge you all to let your imagination soar. Whether it's in your studies, sports, or personal projects, approach every task with a mindset of curiosity and originality. Don't be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone — real growth happens when you push beyond what feels familiar. Every idea, no matter how small, has the potential to spark something extraordinary.

As you unleash your creativity, remember that the world needs your unique perspective. You have the ability to contribute something meaningful, whether it's a new way of thinking, a fresh solution to a problem, or simply an act of kindness expressed in your own way. Your voice matters and your contributions are valuable.

In our school, we believe that creativity is the heart of innovation, growth, and positive change. I am deeply proud of how each of you continues to inspire one another, to support your peers, and to contribute to the vibrant energy that makes our school a special place. Let's make this month a time of discovery, where your ideas come alive and your creativity leads the way.

Remember, creativity knows no limits — and neither do you.

With great pride and faith in you all,

REV. FR. SIJO JACOB PAVARTTIKARAN ASST. BURSAR

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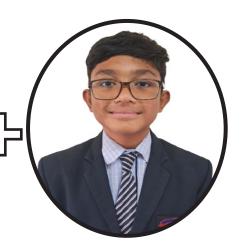


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GRADE X

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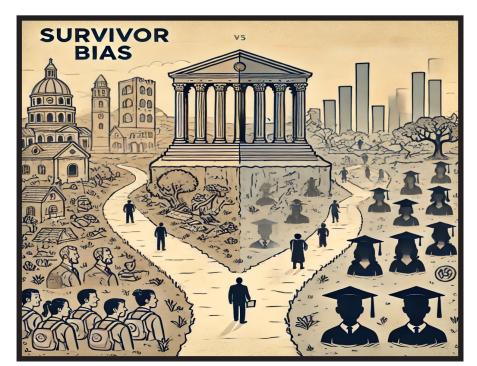
## Across the Miles - "An Unbroken Friendship"

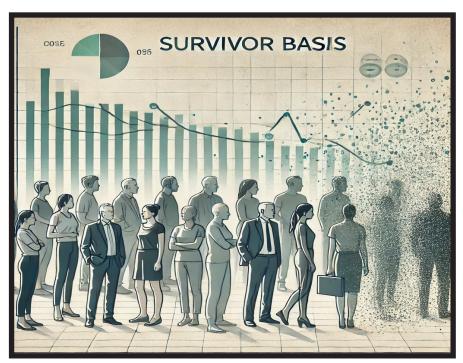
**BY-SAANVI SINGH BISHT (CLASS 11)** 

In India, two friends shared laughter and cheer, For six happy years, they were always near. But life took a turn, and one moved away, To Chicago, where winters are cold and gray. Even though miles now stretch far apart, Their bond stayed strong, close in the heart. Three years of distance, yet they still connect, Keeping their promise with love and respect. They talk and they text, their friendship still true, Showing the world what good friends can do. They've proved that distance doesn't break ties, With their shared joy and comforting replies. So here's to their friendship, a shining light, That stays warm and close, no matter the night. They've shown that true friends can always remain, Connected in spirit, despite the long plane.

### "Survivor Bias: The Success We Miss"

BY- KALASH.R (CLASS 11)





Te often hear people say that the structures built a century ago are still standing strong, so they must have had superior building methods and materials. But what we overlook is that the structures they are referring to are the ones that survived the test of time. There might have been several other structures - indeed, the majority of them built during that period that no longer exist.

This is also commonly seen in college dropout stories of successful people like Steve Jobs, Brad Pitt, and Mark Zuckerberg. Their stories highlight how they became insanely successful without finishing college. But in reality they are among the few outliers. If we observe the complete data, college drop outs earn way less and are less successful than the people who went to college.

The Survivor Bias is very common. We often judge a situation based on the people who came out successful and not at all consider the vast majority who did not. We should be mindful of this bias while making important decisions and not be misled by exceptional cases.

### **Epochs in Motion: A History Beyond Boundaries**

BY- SUJATHA KS FACULTY, HISTORY DEPARTMENT

"We study history not to be clever in another time, but to be wise always"

- Marcus Tullius Cicero

he adage "History repeats itself" suggests the idea that certain events, behaviours, or social phenomena recur over time in a manner that is analogous, if not identical. It provides a crucial understanding of the consequences of various actions and decisions of the past, helping us make wiser choices in the present and future.

History is not a study of others. The people you learn about may have lived decades or even centuries ago, but their actions directly affect how we live our lives today. Events that we see, like dates, have been turning points in the story of our societies.



History matters because it helps us as individuals and as societies to understand why our societies are the way they are and what they value.

Far from being a "dead" subject, it connects things through time and encourages us to take a long view of such connections and fosters a sense of wonder about the world, the kind of wonder that nurtures intellectual curiosity.

All people and peoples are living histories. To take a few examples: communities speak languages that are inherited from the past. The cultures, traditions, religions and governments have not been created on the spur of the movement, even technologies that have been invented have a past.

The past creates the present. Our modern world exists because of events that happened long before our time. Only by understanding those events can we know how we got here, and where to go next and by combining historical understanding with current analysis and forward thinking,we can make informed decisions and face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

"In a nutshell, History matters. It is not just useful it is essential

### A Deeper Dive into the 'Canine Subculture'

BY-VISHWANATH.S FACULTY, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

For some individuals, dressing up as a dog is more than just a costume choice—it's a unique form of self-expression, creativity, and community. This niche subculture, often referred to as "puppy play" or "dog-play," has gained attention in recent years for its intriguing blend of identity exploration and playful escapism.

## **Understanding the Phenomenon:**

Dressing as a dog can mean different things to different people. For some, it's a way to tap into the carefree and loyal spirit associated with canine behaviour. For others, it's part of a lifestyle that explores themes of role-playing, companionship, or even performance art. Participants often wear detailed costumes that mimic the appearance of dogs, ranging from simple masks and tails to elaborate suits known as "pup hoods" or full-body furry suits. These costumes allow individuals

to embody their "canine selves," either for fun, personal exploration, or participation in social gatherings.

#### **Psychological and Social**



#### **Aspects:**

For many participants, dressing as a dog is about shedding human expectations and embracing a simpler, more instinctual existence. It allows for emotional release, connection, and the exploration of identity in a judgment free environment. Communities and meetups provide social spaces for like-minded individuals to connect, share experiences, and celebrate their shared passion. These gatherings often

emphasize camaraderie and mutual support, creating a sense of belonging that many participants cherish.

#### Puppy Play:

A Subset of Role-Playing Culture, Puppy play, often associated with BDSM or kink subcultures, takes a different approach. It focuses on adopting the behaviour and mindset of a dog. Participants, known as "puppies," may engage in activities like barking, playing fetch, or walking on all fours, while "handlers" take on roles similar to dog owners or trainers. This practice emphasizes a return to a carefree state of being. For many, it's about releasing stress, exploring non-verbal communication, or strengthening bonds in a consensual and controlled environment. While some engage in puppy play privately, others participate in public events, such as puppy play competitions, where they showcase their skills and creativity.

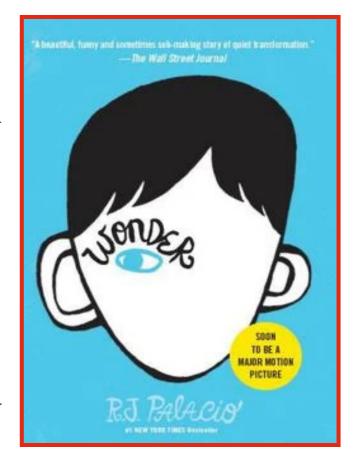
## Wonder: "A Choice between Being Right or Being Kind"

**BY-TANYA (CLASS 9 A)** 

R.J. Palacio is about August Pullman, a boy with facial deformities starting school for the first time. The book is a realistic fiction, inspired by the author's encounter with a similar child. In 2017, it was adapted into a movie that demonstrated how kindness can change lives.

The novel explores themes of empathy and acceptance, showing how kindness can transform people and society. It shares perspectives from August, his sister Via, August's friend Jack, and others, allowing readers to see many sides of the story. Palacio writes in a friendly and humorous way, making tough parts easier to read.

The book uses a multiti-narrative structure, offering perspectives from various characters, which enhances storytelling by providing insights into different experiences and emotions. Palacio also employs a conversational style and a first-person narrative. She tells the story from August's point of view with an upbeat



mood and humour, which lightens the darker and heavier parts of the story. This kind of writing prioritizes morals over the development of characters, emphasizing that the story is more about the message than the character's journey.

It teaches us to look past how people look on the outside. August's story made me reflect on how I treat people who are different and taught me to stay strong no matter what.

My favourite part of the book was the precept given to the students by Mr Browne, their English teacher: "When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind." It shows that kindness is often the best answer.

One thing I disliked about the book is that some aspects of the plot were predictable, especially since they were similar to the tale of the Ugly Duckling, which everyone accepted at the end.

In conclusion, "Wonder" is touching and teaches us to be better people. It's a great read for those who want an uplifting story. This book deeply moved me and taught me many valuable lessons. I highly recommend "Wonder" to anyone willing to make the world a better place and looking for a moving and inspiring story.

### "Echoes of Carpe Diem: Dead Poets Society"

**BY-TANYA (CLASS 9 A)** 

Poets Society is a 1989 film set in a fictional elite all-boysboarding school called Welton

Academy in England in 1959. The movie follows a group of spirited young teenage boys entering a new year at Welton.

The movie begins as Mr. John Keating returns to the school at which he was once a student, this time as a teacher. Mean-

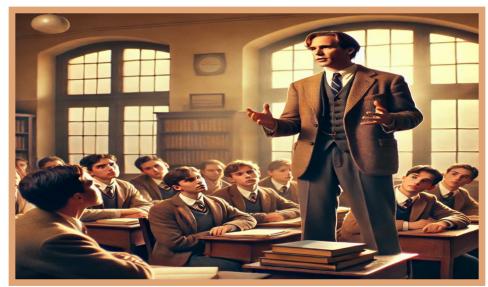
while, we are introduced to Todd Anderson, who has been transferred to the same school where his well-liked, elder brother was once valedictorian.

Todd's journey throughout the film from quiet insecurity to self-discovery and acceptance forms one of the film's most touching emotional narratives.

He becomes fast friends with his roommate Neil Perry, through whom he meets and befriends her spirited teenage youths of the Academy.

Neil Perry, another dominating character of both the movie and at Welton Academy, is both intelligent and well-liked. However, he is often heavily influenced by his controlling and domineering father, who has already predetermined his future as a doctor.

Neil's narrative is tarnished by the oppressive expectations and demands of his father, highlighting the film's central theme of individuality versus conformity, a struggle that resonates with anyone who has felt the weight of societal or familial expecta-



tions. As Keating replaces the students' old poetry teacher, he begins to teach the boys through his new and unorthodox way of teaching. Under his unconventional teaching methods, the boys are introduced to a passionate and liberated approach to life, learning to embrace the idea of "Carpe Diem," or "Seize the Day." This freeing philosophy encourages them to pursue their dreams, challenge the expectations of their environment, and appreciate the beauty of poetry and self-expression. The powerful line "O Captain, My Captain!" becomes a rallying cry for the students, symbolizing their growing rebellion against the rigid confines of their oppressive academic, familial, and societal surroundings.

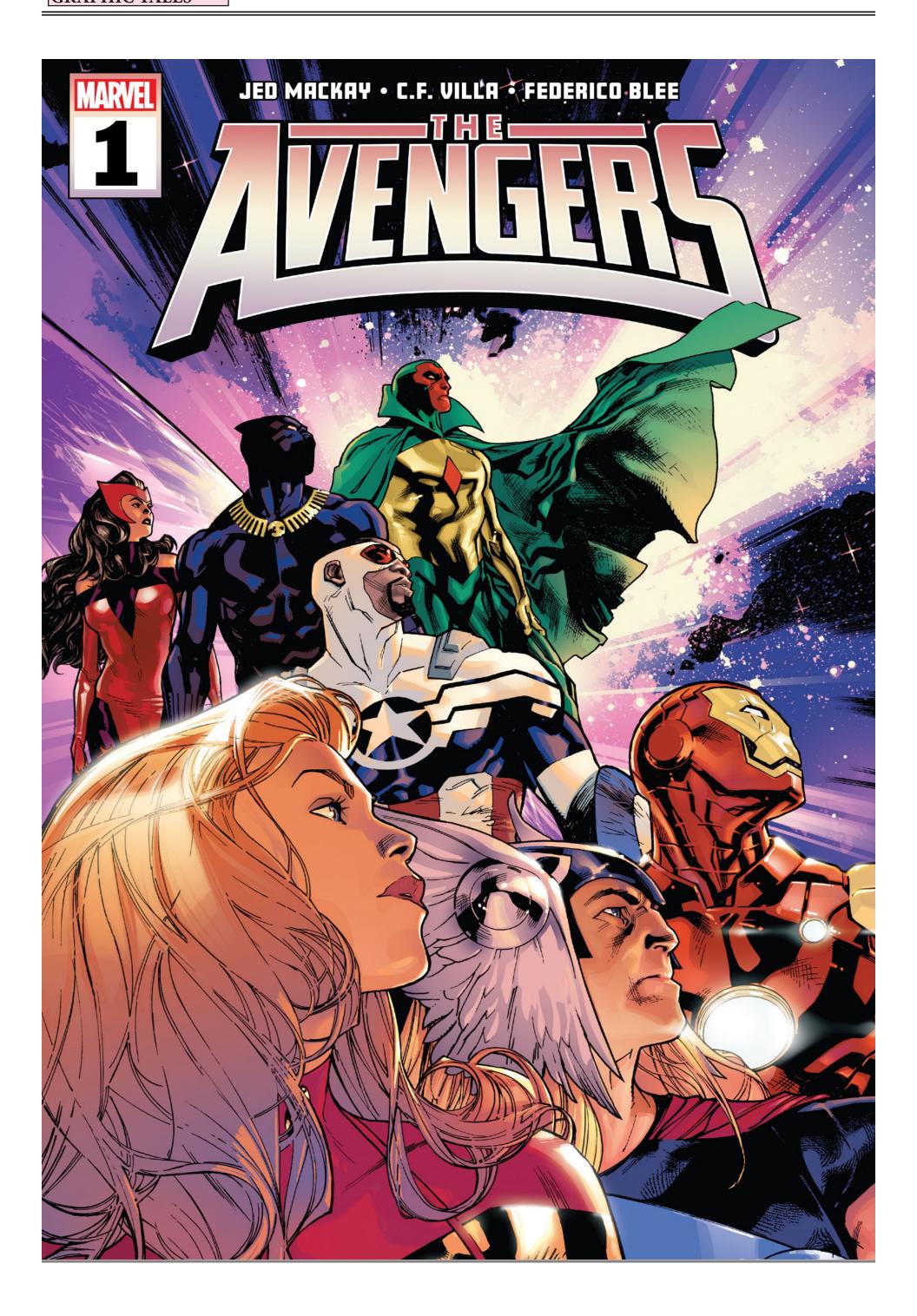
The youths soon learn of the 'Dead Poets Society,' a secret society that existed during Keating's years as a student. Inspired

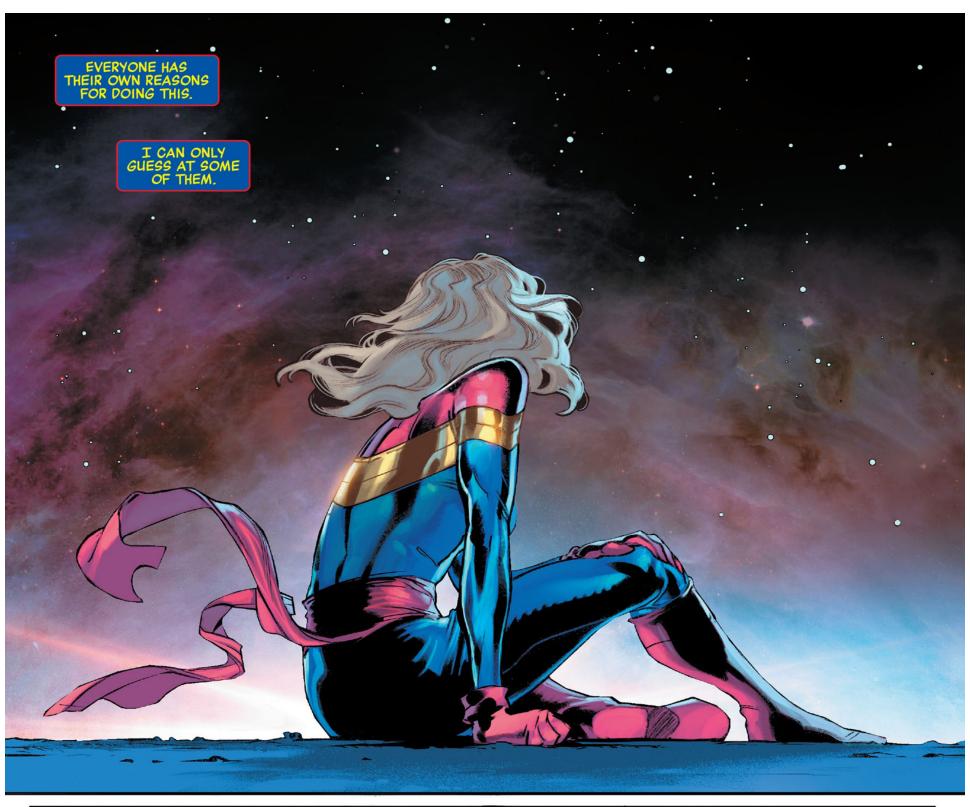
by the it's concept and Keating's influence, they decide to reform the society.

Moreover, influenced by Mr.

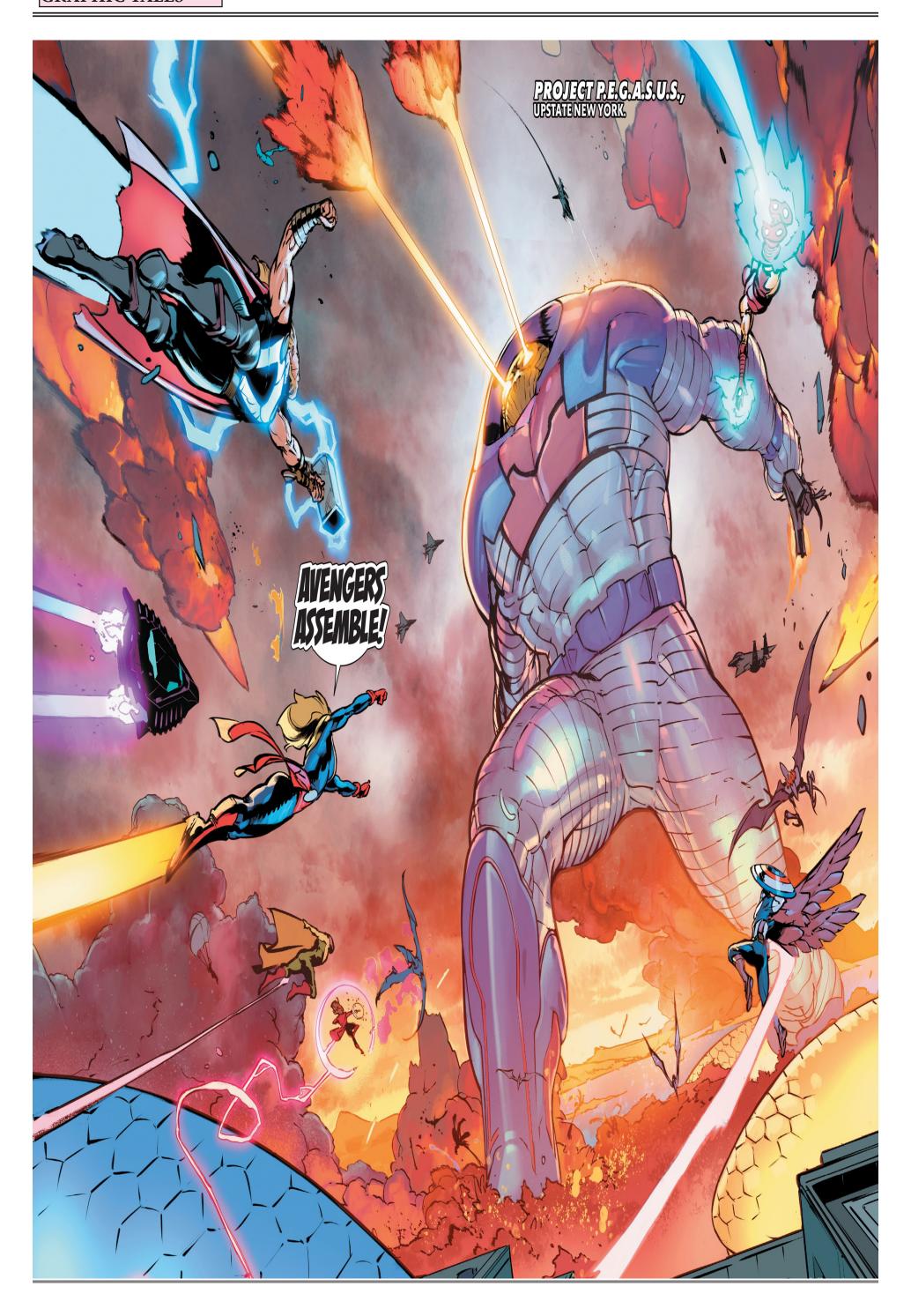
Keating, Neil learns to rebel against his father's control, discovering his new-found passion and love for acting. Having been cast in a Shakespearean play without the knowledge of his father, Neil stars in a rendition of A Midsummer Night's

Dream with the support and inspiration of his friends and his teacher and now mentor, John Keating. In my opinion, among all the themes portrayed, the movie most beautifully depicts the theme of death and loss. The movie regrettably ends with a heart-breaking climax, but the movie 'Dead Poets Society' is truly a beautiful and life-changing piece of cinema. Having often been cited by viewers as one of the most inspirational works in cinema, it perfectly encapsulates the feelings of teenage emotions like passion, youth, growth, love, individuality, and even darker themes such as loneliness, oppression, inferiority, and suicide. The movie depicts brotherhood, loyalty, youth, humour, and found family incredibly, having held up as a masterpiece of art for decades, with its deep, meaningful, and heavy storyline, endearing and moving characters, and beautiful cinematography.











And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat—on that day, the Avengers were born. To fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!



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## "Guiding Minds, Shaping Society"

**BY- ELAINE ANN JOHNS (CLASS 11)** 

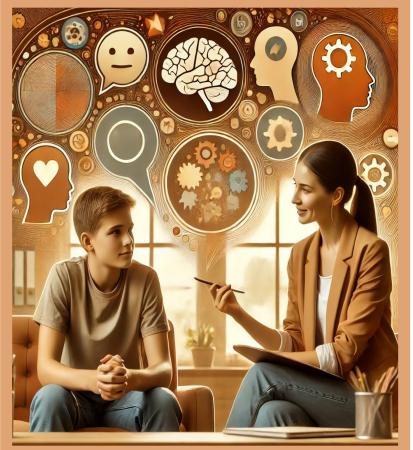
-Why do I have no friends?

-What is gender equality?

-Will my friends/ peers consider me weak if I cry?

These are just a few of the many questions that often cross our minds. Sometimes, we may have questions we're not comfortable asking anyone, perhaps due to concerns about confidentiality. In such situations, a professional counselor can help by providing a safe, confidential space for guidance.

You might ask: Who is a counselor, and why are their roles important? A counselor is a licensed professional who provides guidance in areas such as academics, careers, college readiness, and social-emotional support for students of all ages. School counselors help students manage academic stress, mental health issues, social challenges, and family problems. It's crucial for every



educational institution to have a well-qualified and trustworthy counselor.

Sometimes, parents' high expectations can add to students' pressures. Each student is unique, excelling in academics, sports, or the arts, but society often pushes them into predefined roles. Students may try to voice concerns but find no one willing to listen. This is where a

counselor's role becomes essential.

Now what is psychology? It is the study of the mind and the behavior it

also looks at how people think, feel, and act, both individually and in groups.

The subject psychology is considered as a part of science in foreign countries but as a non-science subject in India.

In conclusion, Psychology is a sophisticated subject that explores the complexities of the human mind, behavior, thought processes and emotions in various situations.

As we deepen our understanding of human behavior, psychology plays a vital role in shaping more effective interventions and fostering positive societal change.

## "Eternal Friendship: Hachikō's Wait"

**BY- SURYANSHU GHOSE (CLASS 7 B)** 

ogs have been globally accepted as man's best friend. They are very loyal and protective of their owners.

No matter what kind of dog it is, it will never

betray its owner. Let me share with you a story of such loyalty and friendship, the

story of Hachikô.

Born on November 10, 1923, Hachikô was a Japanese dog- a n

a Japanese dog- a member of the Akita-Inu particular professor who taught in the Tokyo Imperial University (now called the University of Tokyo). Every day, Hachikô would go to the Shibuya train station to farmeet his owner returning from work. The

pair continued this for the next year, until one day; when the owner did not return.

The Professor had died of Cerebral Hemor-rhage while he was giving a lec-

to theclass. He passed away without saying goodbye to his favourite pet. Unaware of this, Hachikô continued it's daily routine, for the next 9 years, 9 months and 15 days in the hope of his master's return. He was later taken in by the Ueno family's former gardener, Kozaburo Kobayashi.

ture

上野英三郎博士とハチ公

Hachikô died on March 8, 1935 at the age of eleven (which is roughly 72 years for humans). His loyalty towards the professor was unparalleled and for this reason, remains well-known throughout the world. The pair had a unique bond, which

kept Hachi waiting indefinitely for Ueno's return.

The bronze statue of Hachikô installed outside Tokiyo's Shibuya Station, is a fond remembrance of undying love and unwavering loyalty that held two members of different species in an everlasting bond.

This story is no doubt one of the world's best examples of loyalty. Being loyal does not only mean showing love and affection. It also means, staying with someone through thick and thin, and remaining that way until the end of time. block

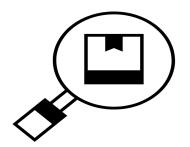


#### **HOW TO PLAY?**

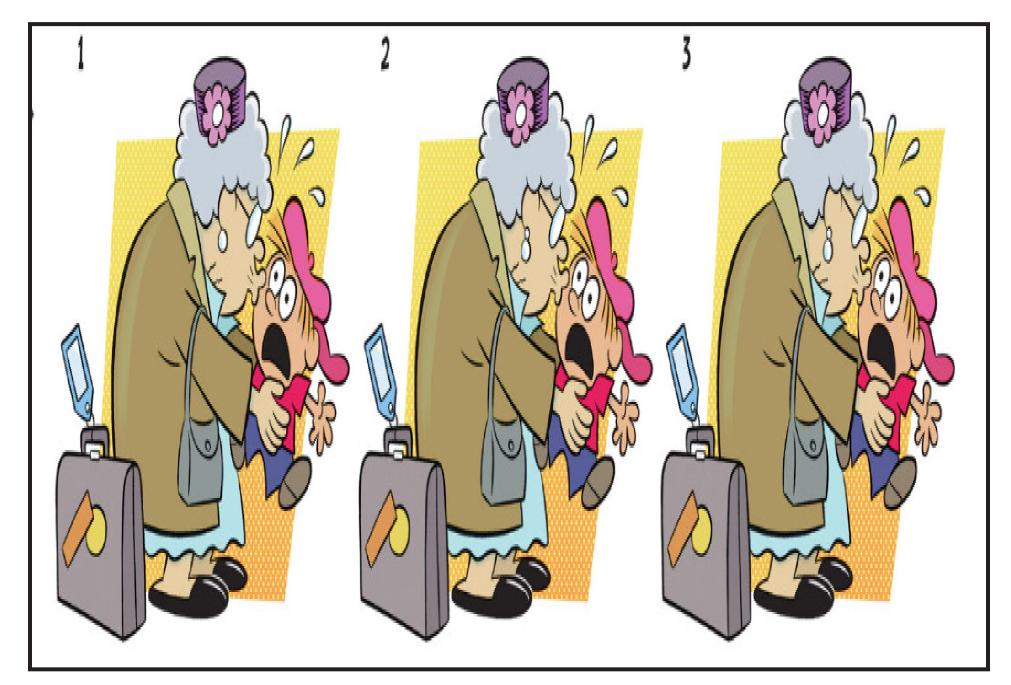
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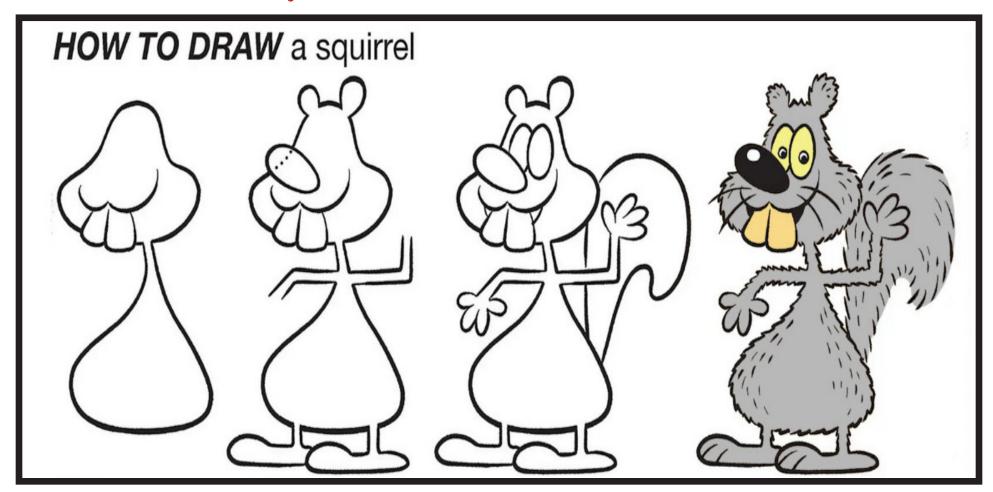
For answers, refer to the next edition



# Spot the difference!



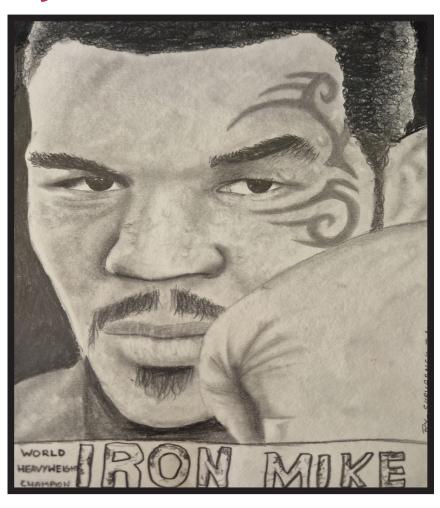
## Shapes to shadows!



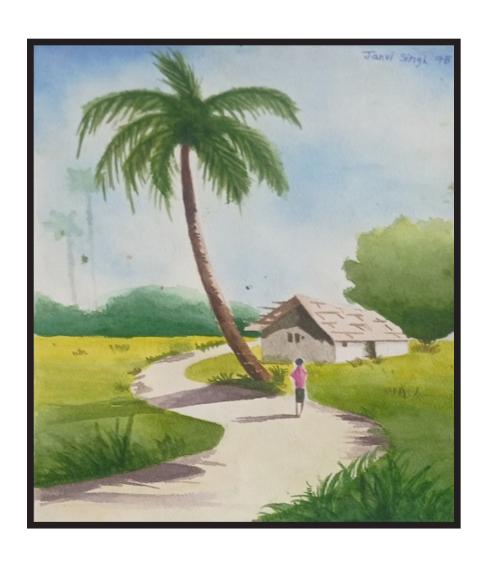
## Art Gallery!



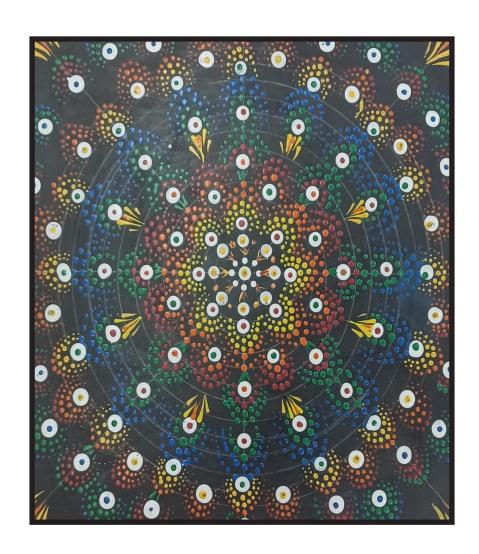
Ragaaharshini-Grade-10A



Suryaansh. W- Grade -8A



Janvi Singh-Grade-7B



Saloni Anupam - Grade -7B