

CURIOUS TIMES WEEKLY

Age Appropriate Content

School Curriculum Aligned News

Non-Sensational News

How COVID-19 changed the Olympics Games' history

Image Credit : Pixabay



24 July, was supposed to have been the first day of the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan. The Tokyo Olympics (Tokyo 2020) were supposed to be held from 24 July to 9 August 2020. However, due to COVID-19, it had to be postponed. Now, the new dates are 23 July to 8 August in 2021. This is the first time in history that the games have been postponed and not cancelled.

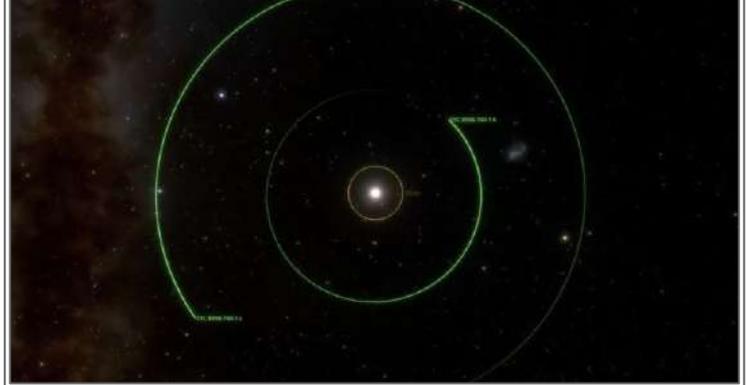
So, had things gone as planned, over 4 billion people globally would have watched a huge opening ceremony on TV on 24 July at the National Olympic Stadium. Over 12,000 athletes would have been participating in 339 events across 33 different sports. There were also supposed to be five new sports this year.

Visitors would have been assisted by robots. The medals to be presented to winners this time would also have been a little different – they are made out of recycled electronic waste. So what will change for the Olympic Games in 2021? Even though it will be held in 2021, the event will still be called Tokyo 2020. The schedules and venues will remain the same.

However, the organisers are aiming to simplify the games. They want to follow social distancing rules, wear face masks, etc. The postponement of Tokyo 2020 has left many athletes wondering about their futures. Unfortunately, some will not participate next year as they feel they would be too old. On the other hand, for others, it gives them another chance to try and qualify.

Astronomers capture first-ever photo of a solar system like ours

Image Credit : European Southern Observatory



Recently, astronomers have captured the first-ever photo of a star like our Sun, with planets revolving around it (just like our solar system). Astronomers used the Very Large Telescope in Chile to observe this system.

What do we know about this new solar system? The star, called TYC 8998-760-1, is over 300 light-years away from us. It is only 17 million years old. Comparatively, our Sun is roughly 4.6 billion years old. There are two planets orbiting the star. They are called TYC 8998-760-1b and TYC 8998-760-1c.

The planets are believed to be gas giants (like Jupiter and Saturn). However, they are much further away from their star than Jupiter and Saturn are to the Sun. They are also much heavier than our gas giants. Because they formed so recently, the two planets still glow brightly enough to be seen from Earth.

This image is remarkable because exoplanets (planets outside our solar system) are usually very far away and too dim to capture. Additionally, if they are too close to their star, the star outshines them. This newly-discovered solar system is something like what would ours have been like when it was younger. It will help astronomers better understand how our solar system formed and evolved.

Watch the video below of this newly-captured solar system: <https://youtu.be/VtiFBwajX4>

Eid Ul Adah Mubarak!



Let's learn the basic essence of sacrifice and celebrate the Eid by sacrificing our egos!
This Eid, may allah bless you with health and happiness.

Word to know



Tentative
Adjective | ten-tuh-tiv
a plan or idea not certain or agreed, or said or done in a careful but uncertain way because you do not know if you are right

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In Paris, movie-goers watch a film from boats

Image Credit : [Twitter@nbcomplexe](#)

Do you know what a drive-in cinema is? It is an outdoor cinema "hall". It is like a big car parking space which has a large screen showing movies. You don't have to step out of your car to watch.

In Paris, France, at the Paris Plages, organisers set up a similar cinema along the river Seine.

Paris Plages is an annual event in Paris. During this time, they convert the roadways on the banks of the Seine into beaches to organise many fun sports and other activities.

On 18 July (the first day of the festival), the open-air cinema showed the 2018 French comedy movie called *Le Grand Bain*. But instead of cars (like at a drive-in cinema), people watched the movie sitting on electric boats!

There were 38 boats and each boat could seat up to six people who know each other. Additionally, about 150 chairs were also set up on the banks of the river, each six-feet apart.

While many people are still concerned about going to the cinemas, they certainly enjoyed this open air show. Organisers hope to show more films as the Paris Plages will go on till 30 August

<https://youtu.be/eRrSRDot54I>

School girls from Gujarat discover asteroid moving towards Earth

Image Credit : [Twitter@Spacian](#)

Two schoolgirls from India have discovered an asteroid. This asteroid is slowly moving toward Earth.

The students, Radhika Lakhani and Vaidehi Vekariya are both in the 10th grade. They are from Surat in Gujarat.

How did they discover the asteroid?

Radhika and Vaidehi were participating in a project organised by SPACE India and the International Astronomical Search Collaboration (IASC). IASC is connected to NASA. In this project, students were taught to study and identify space objects from images taken by NASA's Pan-STARRS telescopes. The project aims to involve and educate students in science and astronomy.

The Pan-STARRS telescopes are located at the University of Hawaii in the US.

Radhika and Vaidehi discovered this asteroid in June and received a confirmation on 23 July from NASA.

For now, they are calling the asteroid HLV2514. They are looking forward to officially naming the asteroid. Vaidehi also says that she wants to be an astronaut someday.

NASA confirmed Asteroid HLV2514 is currently close to the orbit of Mars. In about a million years, it will change its orbit. Then it will move closer to Earth. But it is not a threat to Earth as it will still be far away.

Did you know?



The famous Eiffel Tower in Paris was supposed to be a temporary installation. It was intended to stand for only 20 years after being built for the 1889 World Fair.

JokePokes



Q. When is it bad luck to meet a black cat?

A. When you're a mouse.

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Save tigers save wildlife

Hanika bhardwaj

Kindergarten, The Sixth Element Play School, Gurgaon



International Tiger Day

Adwitha T A

Grade 1, My school, Tirur, Malappuram, Kerala



Paw Trails

Shivanshi

5, Navy Children School, Goa

29 July is global Tiger day.

In the year 2010 in St Petersburg Tiger Summit Global system for protecting the natural habitat of tiger was taken up. Aim was to raise public awareness and support for tigers conservation.

India has largest Tiger Habitat in the world it has 70% of the world tigers population. India's latest tiger census was included in the the Guinness World Record for largest counting exercise ever taken by any country across the globe. India had taken a vow in 2010 Saint Petersburg declaration to double the Tiger population. Project Tiger was launched in 1973 with just 9 tiger reserves but today India has 50 tigers Reserves. The steps taken are :

- 1) If conditions are good big cats are fast breeders and being at the peak of the food chain it correct numbers will reflect good biodiversity. So we should be able to provide good conditions.
 - 2) Government has also started MSTripes ie monitoring system for tigers intensive protection and ecological status.
 - 3) Global Tiger SOP have been issued to take care of orphaned, old and injured cubs and tigers.
 - 4) India organised workshops for other Tiger habitant countries like Cambodia Bhutan Bangladesh Thailand Malaysia and Russia
- So let's join our hands together to save tigers.

Save the nature!!!!

Parv

Kindergarten, The Sixth Element



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Bored penguins enjoy playing with bubble machine

Image Credit : Newquay Zoo



Due to the COVID-19 situation, Humboldt penguins at the Newquay Zoo in Newquay, England have not seen visitors over the past few months.

The zoo has been re-opened recently but is getting very few visitors. This has made the penguins bored and lonely.

However, now they are having fun and enjoying themselves thanks to a bubble machine. This is a machine that produces bubbles that the penguins can chase around.

The bubbles have different shapes and colours. This keeps the penguins active and energetic as they enjoy chasing them around. The bubbles do not cause any harm to the penguins.

Many zoos around the world are also doing similar things to keep animals active.

Humboldt penguins are fast swimmers, reaching speeds up to almost 50 km per hour. In the wild, they are usually quite active while catching food to eat. So, even in the zoo, their natural behaviours need to be continued otherwise they will not be healthy.

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1280454592363446272>

Hubble Telescope takes amazing picture of Saturn during its summertime

Image Credit : NASA



What does the image show?

Like Earth, Saturn also has different seasons. Its appearance changes with the change in season. However, a season on Saturn lasts more than 7 years.

The images show what summertime is like in Saturn's northern hemisphere. A slight reddish colour can be seen in the area. There is also a blue hue (tint) at Saturn's south pole, which is due to changes in the planet's winter atmosphere.

Saturn's rings are also clearly visible. The rings consist mostly of pieces of ice and rocks.

You can also see two of Saturn's 82 moons in the image (the two bright dots). They are Mimas to the right and Enceladus at the bottom.

This new image of Saturn is part of a project named Outer Planets Atmospheres Legacy (OPAL). It aims to improve our understanding of atmospheric patterns and evolution on gas giant planets such as Saturn and Jupiter.

<https://youtu.be/epZdZaEQhS0>

Tongue Twister



Dust is a disk's worst enemy.

JokePokes



What do you call an old snowman?

Water.

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Photos of tiger cubs at Assam wildlife sanctuary brings cheer

Image Credit : [Twitter@kaziranga](#)

Assam is currently facing heavy floods in many districts. Lakhs of people have lost their homes. The Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR) where rhinos live, is also flooded, putting many animals in danger.

However, some good news has come during such dark times. A camera trap captured photos of a tigress and her two cubs inside the Laokhowa Burhachapori wildlife sanctuary. This wildlife sanctuary is spread over 114 sq km. It is located next to and comes under the KNPTR.

This photo has brought cheer among forest officials and conservation activists as it is the first sighting of tiger cubs in this sanctuary. It shows the tiger population is increasing.

Earlier, in the 1980s, the Laokhowa Burhachapori wildlife sanctuary was also home to about 70 rhinos but they were killed by poachers (illegal hunters).

Animal conservationists have been working since 2007 to revive the wildlife in this sanctuary. The tiger cubs' photo shows that their efforts are working.

Watch this video of rhinos at the Kaziranga National Park: <https://youtu.be/5ltLvCEZLUA>

A huge asteroid shower hit the Earth and Moon 800 million years ago

Image Credit : Pixabay



Over the course of Earth's ancient history, our planet has been subjected to be many cosmic events. They have greatly influenced life on Earth. For example, an asteroid wiped out the dinosaurs 66 million years ago. Scientists have found another such life-changing event in the Earth and Moon's past. They found that a massive asteroid shower hit both the Earth and the Moon 800 million years ago.

This huge shower had asteroids that were much larger than the asteroid that killed the dinosaurs. In fact, they were between 30 to 60 times larger! This impact occurred before the Cryogenian period (which was between 635 million and 720 million years ago). This was when Earth was covered in icy deserts. This was an era of great environmental and biological changes.

For this study, Japanese scientists examined images of the Moon taken by the Kaguya lunar orbiter. They found that an enormous asteroid, at least 100 km in diameter, broke up and hit the Earth and Moon. However, as Earth has little evidence left of such an impact, they studied about 60 large craters on the Moon instead.

The massive asteroid shower would have had an important impact on life on our planet. For example, it delivered large amounts of phosphorus. This could have promoted more algae growth on Earth. Other elements in the asteroid also could have influence marine life and Earth's climate system.

Tongue Twister



Chester Cheetah chewed a chunk of cheap cheddar cheese.

JokePokes



Why was the baby strawberry crying?
Because her mom and dad were in a jam.

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My space 2020

Maahi Bhatia
Grade 2,
The Khaitan School, Noida

My vision of India in the space

Shivansh Singh
7, DLDVA Model School, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi, Delhi

As a proud citizen of India, I greatly value its prime space research institution, ISRO, which has done a great job in creating technological advancements in an area as crucial as space.

We are already standing out from the rest of the world because of some laudable achievements. We proved our worth to the whole world when our nation became the first to reach Mars on its maiden attempt, and we raised our bars another notch when we launched 104 satellites together, breaking the records of NASA and ROSCOSMOS.

And with our upcoming ambitious mission as Gaganyaan, which is going to carry a crew of three men to space, we will prove our importance yet another time. That will be remarkable.

However, NASA has already pulled it off, but I think that with our technology is improving day by day, one day we will surely stand shoulder to shoulder with them.

However, I think we should develop our satellites even more so that we can explore other things, like the unexplored southern side of the Moon; or we can land a rover on Mars, which will help us in understanding Mars' geology and climate. We can also search for past or present life there. And if we improve our satellite technology even more, we can also send rovers and satellites on other planets.

Space exploration is important, but, according to me, for our country, we need a stronger emphasis on the development of satellites that can help protect its borders and enhance the internal security system. Those should also help in connecting the remote areas of the nation to the rest. We should be able to have more accurate weather forecast, which can help in saving hundreds of lives and property; and examining and providing accurate information about the environmental issues, helping humans to find their solutions.

Doing this will ultimately help in the growth of the Indian economy. And this is how I visualize ISRO helping India and its countrymen.

Jiggly Jelly

Anshuman
5, Pathways World School, Gurgaon

Once there was a boy
Whose name was Shinoy
At home he felt very bored
So, he decided to go to the shore.

He saw everyone playing merrily
And few of them surfing steadily
He also wanted to play as he could not surf
There was nothing, no toys and not an iota of turf.

He began to build a castle out of sand
He, indeed, had a lot of work in hand
He shovelled the sand out
And seeing something shiny, he got knocked out!!

He shrieked in joy,
as he dug the sand out
Discovering what was lying buried
he gave a shout out!

Suddenly the clouds thundered, and the ocean crashed,
and the rain started to drip drop
he picked 'it' up, and rushed back
dancing back in his tiny flip flops!

He brought 'it' home for others to see
In his hand 'it' was wiggly-wobbly
'It' looked beautiful not only from distance
Being in the sand, 'it' did not lose its' brilliance!

"The jelly was jiggling,
And I could not believe
'it' was also giggling", said the boy
'It' found a place for itself in his home
And felt happy to be in that zone!!

They played and played day and night
He also taught 'it' how to fly a kite
'It' remained in his pocket, all through the day
There 'it' felt safe, and decided to stay, hurrah!

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Homesick camel walks for over 100 km to return to its former owner

Image Credit : @TZenPhilosopher



Dogs are famous for their loyalty and faithfulness but have you ever read something similar about camels?

Recently, in Inner Mongolia, a camel walked alone for 7 days over 100 km to return to its former owners! Inner Mongolia is a region that is part of China. This region is located in the Gobi Desert and has many camels.

The camel used to live with a couple named Temur and Naren. However, as it grew old, they sold the camel to another person last year.

It turns out that the camel could not get used to its new home. So, it decided to go back to its former owners. The camel trekked across mountains and rivers, climbed over fences, and crossed roads to get back to Temur and Naren.

The couple was very touched by the camel's loyalty and decided to buy it back. The camel has now become part of their family.

Camels can go without food and water for days in the desert. They also have good memories and can form close bonds with humans

Watch a video on camels below:
<https://youtu.be/74Z0HtrTqJM>

Engineers create tiny camera backpack for insects

Image Credit : Mark Stone/University of Washington



Have you ever wondered what the world looks like from the view of an ant or other tiny insects? Well, we can find out soon enough.

In an exciting new development for tiny technology, engineers at the University of Washington, US, have built a tiny camera backpack for insects.

This miniature GoPro camera was used on live beetles and insect-sized robots. GoPro cameras are action cameras. They are used while moving or performing adventure sports.

The mini camera system is wireless. It weighs about 250 milligrams. This is about one-tenth the weight of a playing card. It captures black-and-white videos.

The camera has an arm to move it around to different sides. It has a battery that can record for about 6 hours. The camera recording happens only when the beetle moves. This saves energy.

The camera does not affect the beetles. They could move without any difficulty.

The team hopes to make it solar-powered.

Here is a video of the camera:
<https://youtu.be/115BGUZopHs>

Did you know?



The Gobi Desert is the fifth-largest desert in the world. Many amazing dinosaurs fossils have also been found here.

Word to know



Priority
Noun | prahy-awr-i-tee
something that is very important and must be dealt with before other things

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Abhimanyu Gupta
Grade 4, Springdales School, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi



Ryan Chacko Preno
Grade 3, The Choice School,, Thiruvalla, Kerala



Adwitha T A
Grade 1, My School, Tirur



Avi Chaudhary
Grade 2, DPS Sonapat



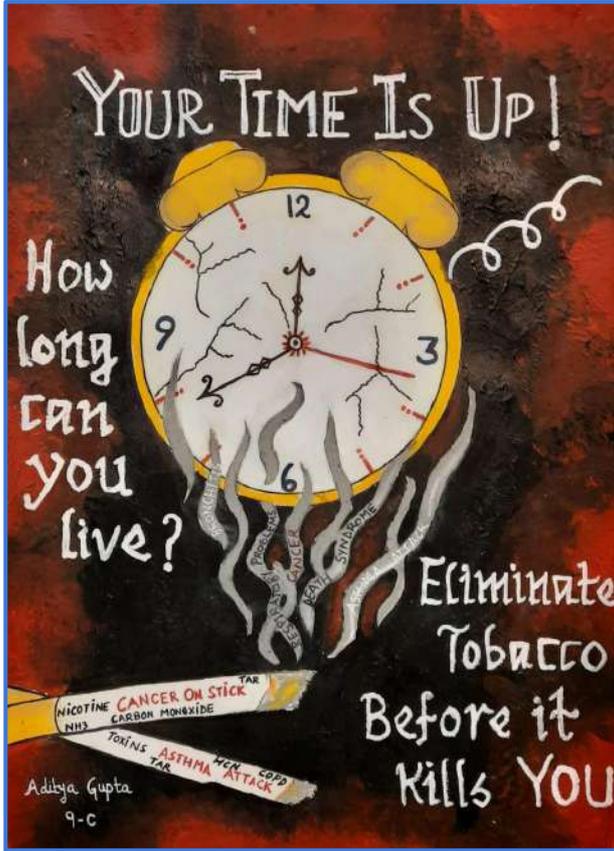
Manisha Sharma
Grade 1, Hansraj Model School

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Aditya Gupta
Grade 9, Springdales School, Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi



Saanchi Matta
Grade 3, DPS Sonapat



Vanshika Singhal
Grade 8, DLDVA MODEL SCHOOL, Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi



Kashish
12, Cambridge School Srinivasपुरi, New Delhi

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Race Is Unaccountable?

Shorya Dutt

10, Navy Children School, Kochi

Equality implies individuality. -Trey Anastasio

Think again, was it his culpability?
For being born with a race,
which he couldn't change?

Colour is just a hue,
at long last, all that matters,
is your persona.

He was just like you and me,
all but innocent as a lamb!
But little did you know.

Gone for no fault of his, did he deserve it?
Think again, was it his fault?
For being born with a race,
which he couldn't change?

Thee aren't inexorable,
deem the actions and thoughts of thyself,
for deep within you know,
it was your fault.

Toilsome

Karthika Jithesh

10, Chinmaya Vidyalaya , Kannur

The day I lost my life,
Everything was not same around.
The dogged task , which I faced;
Was to bring it out.

I tried singularly to perceive it,
Scouted deep under the soul,
Where it got all puzzled.
It just gave the hint; express.
I deciphered many riddles ;
When it again told me to scribble,

Finally i found out,
"The hardest challenge brought out the best in me"
The day when I gasped ,
The flair in me.

You too have one in your soul,
Hunt it , to earn it ;
Because when you demand it ,
It will never come your way.

Did you miss these news? Find them on [CuriousTimes.in](https://www.curious-times.in)

Heavy rains cause floods in states across the country



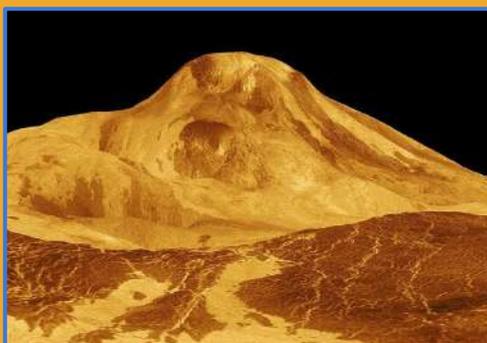
Cabinet approves New Education Policy 2020



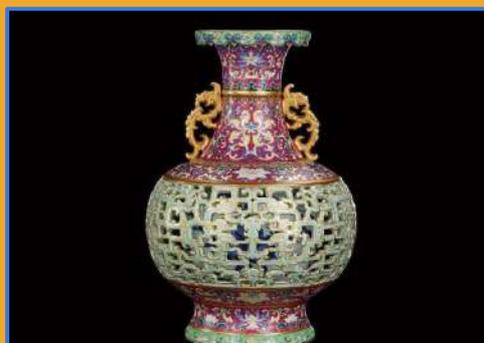
First batch of Rafale jets arrive to India from France



A study shows Venus is volcanically active



A old vase forgotten for 50 years turns out to be worth millions



Scientists discover bacteria that eat metal

