

Vasant Valley

April, 2010

T O D A Y

SCHOOL WATCH

9th April, Friday: Students of **Class 9** visited the **Science Express**, a multimedia science exhibition, which travelled inside a 400 meter long air-conditioned train, all across India.

12th April, Monday:

Hindi Creative Writing Competition (Classes IX & X)

1st - Aastha Kamra

2nd - Vandita Khanna

3rd - Anjani Gupta and Riya Jain

13th April, Tuesday: 16 students from Bhutan and Bangladesh were hosted by students of **Class 11** in a **SAARC exchange programme** organized by the Ministry of External Affairs.

15th April, Thursday:

Sociology Power Point Presentation (Class XII)

1st - Nikhil Pandhi & Sanjoli Sakhuja [Social Effects of HIV]

2nd - Amerah Dolson & Helen Benton [School Violence]

English Debate (Class VI)

1st - Kaamya Sharma

2nd - Sarina Mittal

3rd - Sama Kasliwal

THE TYGER

"In what distant deeps or skies, burnt the fire of thine eyes, On what wings dare he aspire? What the hand, dare seize the fire?"
– The Tyger, William Blake (1794).

It's been a long time since someone's words could actually move us. It takes a lot to accomplish this. 42 degrees in the sweltering heat, we were just looking forward to sitting in the return to school room, apathetic to who was inside or what he was going to say. We walked inside, and shook hands with a Mr. Weihahn. He told us to call him 'G'. Mr. Gerhard Weihahn is a hotelier by profession- the General Manager of Amaan Hotel, Ranthambore- but an environmentalist by passion. He rescued a leopard cub and raised it in the wild, teaching it to stalk, hunt, and climb for 16 months before setting her free.

"Why should we care?", we asked G. Yes, the tigers are a dying species, yes, they're only about 1000 or so left, yes, they're part of our heritage- we all knew and had known it for years. But, so what? They live in the wild... so how would it affect us when they eventually- because of our 'couldn't care less' attitude- die? The answer to this question opened our eyes a bit wider. "The tragedy of it all", G said, "is that you won't realize what you've lost until it's gone. And then it'll be too late to bring them back,

no matter how much you regret it. To be honest, the government isn't doing anything. They look at only the bigger picture. India has an incredible economic growth rate of about 9%. And this comes at the cost of our environment as the tourism sector forms only a small percentage of the growth. So politicians aren't worried about the forests, the animals. It doesn't fall into the bigger scheme of things."

Imagine what a huge failure it would signify for us as a country. Huge, powerful, emerging, "incredible" India, and not a single one of our national animals left. For our grandchildren the tiger may become but an exciting story to be told over and over again- "The tigers were majestic animals, they were graceful and powerful... Yes, I actually did see one of them, when I was a child, about your age... Of course I was scared!"

It was this fear that awakened us, making us passionate us about the issue. The next question people asked was, "What can we do about it, as students?", to which G answered, "Nothing. Or, well, everything. By 2014, many of you here will be old enough to vote. Frame your demands right now. Remind them that they will need this huge youth's vote in a few years. If they want it, they had better start acting now. As far as sanctuaries are concerned, the government is like the owner of a bank. If you leave all the doors of a bank open one night, it will naturally get robbed. Who needs to pull up their socks? Not the thieves, but the bank managers. Thieves exist in every country. The government can do so much more to protect the tigers."

True. But beyond that, so can we. There were 1411 (there you have it!) tigers left in India in March 2008, the last official census, two years ago. We have to rise to the cause sooner or later, and through G's talk, we've been given an opportunity to do so before it's too late. There still are tigers out there. Bold, big beautiful beasts, who today need to be desperately protected. Let's rise and treat them as they actually are; India's National Animal. "When all of you are older, and you have children, you'll look back and say, '10 years ago, I was part of the biggest environmental campaign ever. I saved the tiger from extinction.' Or you could just think about what you could've done and show your children a picture of what once used to be, the magnificent tiger."

Tejasvita Singh & Vedika Berry, XI



Left: Laxmi, the leopard cub Mr. Gerhard Weihahn raised in the wild before setting her free

SPORTS DESK

TIGER, TIGER, BURNING BRIGHT?

Air Jordan exploding towards the hoop, defying gravity, as he led the Bulls to the "3-peat"! Federer sinking to the ground in exhaustion, relief, and infinite joy as he won his 15th major, Schumacher and his relentless charge towards yet one more World Championship. The mesmeric Messi, with 4 goals in a Champion League semifinal! And closer to home... Tendulkar, the indefatigable genius, with his many deliriously brilliant performances to remember and savor, year after year.

They are rare, but they do exist - that breed of sportsmen who can effortlessly command the world stage, who create electricity whenever they play, and who have the ability to captivate the audience with their own special brand of magic. Tiger Woods too had that aura, that special something, ever since he was very young. The golfing world has marveled at his unbelievable talent and relentless desire, as he chased Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 Majors, stealing the title of the Greatest golfer to have ever walked the planet. He became the delight of the media and his viewers with his perfect mix of ability, his wizardry on the course, his diverse background which enabled a global connection, and the masterful way in which he positioned himself as a complete sportsman, and a role model for young people. He is back to golf, after a 5 month hiatus, ending arguably the most controversial absence from sport ever. His return to golf made its own bit of television history as it was the most watched golf telecast ever in cable television.

What a comeback it was. Showing little signs of rust, he enthralled the gallery with his trademark brilliance for 3 days, lurking dangerously just behind the leaders. And so we came to Sunday afternoon at the Masters, traditionally the most exciting afternoon of golf in the entire year. Tiger turned around a slow start with a sudden birdie blitz that brought the crowd to its feet and raised hopes of a battle to the death down the straight. Eventually, however, his putter let him down and a 3 putt bogey midway through the round derailed his momentum at a critical stage. Mickleson not only held his nerve, he produced stunning shots of his own. His gutsy play swamped everyone else, and he cantered to yet another Major victory.

Ironically, Mickleson was caught up in a major family situation of his own, one that could not have been more diametrically opposite from Tiger's, if it had been scripted by a Hollywood writer. His wife, Amy, and his mother, both discovered last year that they were suffering from cancer. Amy had been unable to come to the course for a year, but managed to drag herself down on the final day. Phil did not know that she was going to be able to make it, and so the sight of her on the 18th green was an enormous jolt and one of the most poignant spectacles ever seen in golf. The juxtaposition of the images, of Mickleson shedding a tear as he hugged his wife, and of Woods watching alone from the sidelines as Mickleson pulled on the green jacket, perhaps best captured the conflicting dimensions that Woods much awaited comeback was really all about!

There is a general consensus that he has burst the bubble of fame and adoration. He may yet go on to overhaul Nicklaus and capture all records, but the iconic image that he once created is shattered forever and cannot be rebuilt.

Amira Singh, X



IPL 3: SEMI-FINAL/FINAL PREDICTION

It is clear that this season's Indian Premiere League has been one of the most exciting ones so far. Though the Mumbai Indians seem to have sealed their semifinal spot and are riding high, the other three spots are completely up for grabs. Except for Mohali, all the other six teams have a fair chance of making it to the semifinals. It's going to go down to the wire.

Four teams will make it to the semis. Delhi, Bangalore, Jaipur, Chennai and Hyderabad are all locked on 12 points while Kolkata is not far behind on 10 points. As you can see, it's a very tense state of affairs, and it all may come down to net run rates to decide the semi-finalists. This means that the margin by which a team wins a match will become imperative. The more convincing a victory, the higher the net run rate.

Delhi have been semi-finalists in both the previous IPL seasons. Their remaining games are against Chennai and Hyderabad, which may turn out to be very crucial matches. Chennai also have to play Mohali. Bangalore and Kolkata both have to play Jaipur and Mumbai in their last two games. These few remaining group stage games will be of great importance to determine which teams will make it through to the semi finals.

I think the four semi-finalists will be as follows:

1. **Mumbai Indians**- they are far ahead of every other team with a big lead. They should sail into the semis.
2. **Bangalore Royal Challengers**- the challengers started very strongly but have been slowing down recently. This is not a good sign, but they should have enough to beat Jaipur in their next game, which would give them a great chance of reaching the semis.
3. **Delhi Daredevils**- they haven't had a great season, but I feel if their top order gets going, they can win both of their last games and reach the semis.
4. **Chennai Super Kings**- They started unsteadily without Dhoni's captaincy and blistering batting early in the season. But now with Dhoni back, their form has improved and they should be able to get past Mohali. Also, their confidence is sky high after crushing Kolkata by 9 wickets in their last game.

But the big question is, **WHO WILL REACH THE FINAL?**

I think the final will be between Mumbai and Chennai. Mumbai has been in a league of its own this season, while Chennai is catching fire at just the right time. Hopefully it will be a cracking, entertaining match. Remember that the final will take place on April 25th at the Dr. D Y Patil Stadium in Mumbai. Be sure not to miss it.

Ishan Sardesai, X

TECH TRENDS

THE PEOPLE'S CAR: ON A HIGHWAY TO HELL

Look at what we've made. The 'amazing' Tata Nano. The wonder car. The Maruti 800 2.0. The car of the people. Is it really? Forget about staying on the road, if the car buyers of our bustling economy want to stay *alive*, they might want to rethink that.

The ruthless way the Tatas have pared down the Nano's costs has meant cutting many corners to stay focused on frugality and minimalism.

The Nano's designers reportedly used a hollow shaft instead of a solid beam to connect the steering-wheel to the axle, and plastics and adhesives in place of many studs and bolts. The car's low-performance wheel bearings may wear out rapidly beyond 70 km/h. Where does that leave you? Subsequently, overheating has been a major issue, leaving over a 100 cars in the last few months in flames. Its low level floor is constantly vulnerable to catch fire due to its close contact with the bare, low cost engine. Isn't that a comfy ride.

Similarly, key safety standards are long overdue in India, which has unacceptably high road accident and casualty rates. These include full body crash tests- which determine how cars will crumple in collisions, minimizing the impact on passengers- airbags and anti-lock braking systems. Implementing them will raise the Nano's claimed costs by 40 to 50 percent. Not that cheap anymore, is it?

The Tata car will set a trend under which the industry will take advantage of India's existing poor emission standards and rush to produce new vehicles before better standards are in place. It will greatly add to pollution, which has reached critical levels in 57% of Indian cities and is generating health havoc, with disorders ranging from respiratory illnesses to hypertension to obesity. If this really happens, it will become nearly impossible to achieve major reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions. Now, that's us working for a better tomorrow. Global warming or the environment. Whose side are we on?

If the "Nano trend" continues, the small window of opportunity to control spiralling energy use and greenhouse emissions will slam shut. If India is serious about reversing climate change, it must rethink its automobile policy. And we as buyers must rethink our demand for such a product. A lot of people will be able to afford cars now, but so will a lot more people be fat, asthmatic, mentally ill, in flames, or dead. Now is that the car you want parked on your driveway? Food for thought.

Rishabh Prakash, X

THE ANATOMY OF A BLACKBERRY

There was a time when blackberry and apple were just fruits..."- Facebook Fan Page

Tuesday

10:00 - Congratulations! You're buying your Blackberry today.

11:00 - You hit the store the second it opens.

11:07 - You choose your model once you've debated whether you want a trackball/trackpad/touchscreen.

11:09 - The store assistant explains all the features of the phone to you, though you aren't listening to a word because you're simply entranced by your shiny new toy.

11:16 - You just have one question, "How long will it take to get my BBM activated?"

11:18 - You buy a couple of accessories, silicon/metallic covers

(to match with different outfits) and a screen guard for the phone.

11:19 - You call up your best friend and shriek, "I GOT MY BLACKBERRY!"

Your best friend shrieks back, "YOU GOT A BLACKBERRY!"

11:27 - You are still shrieking.

11:32 - You are done shrieking.

11:32 - No, wait. You shriek some more. Lol.

11:35 - You should really stop shrieking. People are starting to stare.

11:36 - The wait to get your Blackberry Messenger service activated begins.

It is excruciating.

2:53 - You try to have a nap to distract yourself. It doesn't help.

2:56 - You check your phone to see if you've got the activation message.

You haven't.

7: Something- You get the activation message! You make a cool profile for yourself (display name, picture, status, the works). You start adding contacts. "Welcome to the world of Blackberry!", they greet you. You feel very warmly welcome. You are blissful. You are thrilled. You are love struck <3<3

Friday

You get over it.

That's the thing about the Blackberry. You'll crave for one. They're so addictive; they've been nicknamed "crackberries". But the shine wears off.

My blackberry is no longer an accessory, it's a necessity. I can't sleep soundly unless it's tucked in under my pillow. Sometimes I hallucinate that the red light is flashing, indicating a new text or message. The blinking of the green light signifying the battery life is in sync with my heartbeat. When my battery dies, my life shuts down. I have to activate international roaming when travelling due to withdrawal syndromes. I BBM people sitting right next to me. Life has become a major distraction from my blackberry.

I don't need my email on-the-go, I don't need access to the internet 24x7- in a nutshell, a blackberry=BBM. Practically speaking, the Blackberry is just novel way to connect. The brevity of Twitter, the transparency of Facebook- the world is constantly evolving new ways to share and communicate.

Mallika Pal, XI

The iPad- Awesome or Awful?

Apple's done it again. We anticipated a much promised revolutionary change in Apple's technology, divesting ourselves of our dear laptops for a better replacement. But guess what? While rating the good, the bad and the ugly, the iPad ranks pretty high in the bad. Well, at least it manages to look beautiful while it drowns in its criticism. What's wrong with the iPad? No iTunes running at the same time as surfing the internet, no front OR back facing camera, no flash and the ever irksome touch keyboard- this time there are two of them! With twin trouble and such backbreaking failures, I doubt whether it can be compared to Apple's previous products, let alone a functional, multi-tasking, serviceable, in other words- 'NORMAL' laptop. It's your choice- Do you want a hi-tech sophisticated laptop or another one of these beautiful pieces of junk? Do I want one? No thanks.

Vandita Khanna, X



THE STORY OF THE HILLS [INSPIRED BY THE HILLS OF RISHIKESH]

I am sure that the hills are very sad. The blame is on us humans. Let me tell you the story of the hills... Have you ever thought of how we humans make the roads in the hills. No. Then, let me tell you how. First the hills used to be green, natural and home to so many creatures. Some of these creatures; we don't even know the first thing about them. It used to be home of ferocious carnivores and gentle herbivores. Ofcourse, the hills are still somewhat green and many animals still live there but quite less compared to the earlier times. Then came humans armed with bombs and dynamites to hollow out the hills. This destroyed homes of many animals. Even the hills got furious and you can see their anger when there are landslides!

Aditya Chopra V- B



रेशनी जैन पॉच - स

A STORM

I saw a bright light
Which gave me a fright
Suddenly I heard a pitter than a patter
The rain was a big delight
Then I saw lightning white as snow
Right then something struck me
It gave me delight
The scary white light
Was lightning all right
Suddenly the sun came out
And it was a great sight

Ishan F. Coutinho- III C

HUMAN HOMES

Igloos are made in very cold places. People who live in igloos are called Inuits. The people who make igloos have to wear warm clothes. Igloos are made out of ice blocks. Inside



the igloo it is very warm. We made the igloo with sticks and newspaper. Then we painted on top of the newspaper - we painted it blue.

**Nehmat Mann and
Naira Rajamani II- C**

THE SUN

The sun came out, it was very bright. I wore sunglasses to shield my eyes from the light. Suddenly, the light came into my room, It made my room bright. The light was turning white I woke up with a fright!



Shaurya Bhardwaj, III- C

A MONKEY IN THE CLASS

"What's wrong?" I asked. Everybody's mouth was hanging open. They pointed behind me. I looked back and shrieked! I had the greatest shock of my life. There was a gorilla reaching for me. I ran for my life. It was King Kong! I ran faster and hid in the staff-room. I told all the teachers what had happened. They all laughed until King Kong burst in. Some of the teachers dived under his legs and ran away. The rest of the teachers jumped out of the window. "Oh, oh," I said as King Kong neared.

Luckily I had a banana with me. I hurled it at King Kong. He pushed it away. Then I found a burger lying on the teacher's desk. I threw that at him. He gobbled it up. I remembered that my mother had given me burgers for lunch. I led him back to the class-room. I opened my tiffin box and as he reached for the burgers I saw a zip on his back. I pulled it and off fell the skin suit and I realized it was our Principal in a gorilla dress. He said, "I was just reminding you all that it is Halloween." Everybody burst out laughing!

Adit Kapoor IV- B

**Nursery - Finding Their Way-
'Alphabet Maze'**



PAIN

1st Prize, Poetry Competition (VIII & IX)
 With fire and burning rage around her,
 Where death, pain and torture surround her.
 She sits, preserved in her own pain,
 And waits for a better life, but in vain.
 Her heart is torn, her body: marred,
 Her wounded hands cover a face that is scarred.
 She sits. She stares.
 Unthinking. Unhearing.
 Preserved in her thoughts,
 Yet, the smoke isn't clearing.
 She cries without meaning,
 Hurts, without feeling,
 Moans and groans at nothing but the ceiling.
 The world is crushing,
 Burning and crumbling,
 But she, in her madness, sits still crying.
 Will no one come to aid her?
THE ENEMY IS ON HIS WAY
 Will no one come to rouse her from her trance?
THE ENEMY IS AT BAY
 Will no one look at her, in her corner?
 Will no one pause to say:
 'Come my dear, the time is upon us.
 We must go away?'
 But she is alone in her corner.
THE ENEMY APPROACHES UNCONCERNED
 She is alone in the village.
THE ENEMY WALKS, HIS SPURS ARE CHURNED
 He is angry, tall and pained,
 (For he will never see his wife again)
 She looks up, and smiles at her end.
 She does not care. She is spent.
 And with one last stab of pain,
 She sinks into an endless sleep.
 And with one last stab of pain,
 Her arms hang and her wounds run deep.

Pia Kochar, 9

MY TRIP TO JAMMU

On the 17th of March I left Delhi for the Special Olympics Bharat, for a soccer camp in Jammu and Kashmir. My day would start with a warm up session and then we would have our breakfast and continue with our practice with a few breaks.



It was a lot of fun. The coach and the athletes were very warm and friendly. The field where the practice took place was called Sainik School. We would travel by bus till Sainik School and come back by the same bus to the Youth Hostel, where we were staying.

I also made new friends. I did not even realize how time flew by. On the last day, I received a certificate and a medal and it was time to return home. On the way back home, I missed the scenic beauty of the place and the cheerful faces.

Solomon Haokip, 10

रंगों की दुनिया

मौत और हवा की तरह रंग भी अनिवार्य हैं। वैज्ञानिकों ने साबित किया है कि प्रत्येक रंग मनुष्य के प्रति एक नई भावना को जागृत करता है। इसके अलावा किसी भी मनुष्य के कपड़े के रंग को देखकर उसका पूरा चरित्र तय किया जा सकता है। कहा जाता है कि जिस पंकार भाषा में हर एक अक्षर का कोई न कोई महत्त्व होता है उसी पंकार रंगों का भाषा में ही नहीं बल्कि सैकड़ों और चीजों में भारी महत्त्व होता है। वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा प्रमाणित निम्नलिखित रंगों के विश्व भर के महत्त्वों व प्रतीक के रूप में बताया गया है। क्या आप इन से सहमत हैं? पढ़कर अपने व्यवहारों को इन से जोड़िये।

काला: खाला शौर्य व शक्ति का प्रतीक है। फैशन में काला बहुत महत्त्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह किसी भी तरह पहना जा सकता है और वजन घटाने का भ्रम देता है। काला अधीनता का भी प्रतीक है। धर्मस्थल या प्रीस्ट काले जामाओं को पहनकर भगवान के प्रति अपनी आज्ञानकूलता को प्रस्तुत करते हैं। हिंदु धर्म अनुसार यह अशुद्ध रंग है। काले कपड़े पहनकर व्यक्ति दुष्ट भी लग सकता है। कई लोगों का यह भी मानना है कि काला पहनने वाले व्यक्ति या तो दुखी होते हैं या तो इतने शरमीले होते हैं कि समाज में घुल मिल जाना चाहते हैं।

सफेद: ईसाई लोगों का मानना है कि दुल्हन का सफेद पहनना उसकी पवित्रता दिखलाता है। डॉक्टर व नर्स सफेद कपड़ों के माध्यम से अनुर्वता दिखलाते हैं। शफेद शांति, अमन और स्वतंत्रता का प्रतीक है। यह रंग देखकर लोग अव्याकुल महसूस करते हैं। भारत के झंडे पर सफेद के माध्यम से हमारे संस्थापकों ने हिंदुस्तान के धर्म युक्त व पवित्र नदियों को दिखाना चाहा है।

लाल: किसी को भी आकर्षित करने के लिए लाल का लाभ उठाया जाता है। लाल उत्सुकता, जीवन शक्ति और गति का प्रतीक है। इसे पहनकर आप प्रमुख व निजर नज़र आते हैं। गुस्से का भी यही रंग है। कई बार लाल को खुन से भी जोड़ा जाता है। ढाल को प्यार का रंग भी माना जाता है। संगीत में भी लाल बहुत बार इस्तमाल किया जाता है। जैसे : चैरी रैड वी जीज़ द्वारा गाया गया एक बड़ा ही मज़ेदार गाना है।

पीला: "पीला मुझे प्रेरणा देता है, मुझे हर सुबह जगने का प्रोत्साहन देता, है मुझे पलकें झपकाने की शक्ति देता, है पीला मुझे जिंदगी देता है।" लांस आर्मस्ट्रॉन्ग एक सायक्लिस्ट थे जिन्हें कैंसर का श्राप मिला था। वह पीला को अपनी ऊर्जा मानते थे। लिव स्ट्रॉन्ग नामक एक स्थापना जो उन्होंने कैंसर के मरीजों के लिए खोली थी पीले रंग को विख्यात करती है। इसी कारण से पीले को अवशेष का रंग माना जाता है। पीला सूर्य का रंग है जो जीवन को मज़े, खुशहाली व सौंदर्य से भर देता है। पह प्रमाणित है कि जब हम पीले रंग के आस पास होते हैं तो हमारा दिमाग सैराटोनिन नामक एक पदार्थ संचित है जो हमें खुश करने में हाथ देता है। पीला आशपूर्ण रंग भी माना जाता है किंतु कुछ लोग समझते हैं कि पीला कायरता का प्रतिरूपण है। मेरे अनुसार रंगों की तुलना भावनाओं व चरित्रों से करना विलकुल तर्क सहित है। हम गुस्से से लाल हो जाते हैं और नील सा महसूस करते हैं। रंग जीवन को मसालेदार बनाते हैं और उसे एक रौशनी सी देते हैं।

"रंग जिंदगी के हर नामुमकिन प्रश्न का उत्तर देते हैं। वह भावनाओं को आकार देते हैं और मन में ऊर्जा पैदा करते हैं।" विन्स्टन चर्चिल ने यह सदियों पुरानी बात तीन पंक्तियों में ही शानदार तरीके से समा दी है।

WHATS YOUR IDEAL SUMMER DESTINATION?

It's that time of year again, when summer's approaching fast and you need to get away from Delhi's sweltering heat! If you've not already booked a holiday; it's certainly time to do so! Take this quiz to find out your 'ideal summer destination'!

Q1. What souvenirs would you bring back home from your summer vacation?

- a) Nothing. Holidays are meant for kicking back
- b) Designer sunglasses, bags and shoes, topped off with a perfect tan!
- c) Country knickknacks- cowbells, cheese and chocolates
- d) Party pictures with Jay Z and his autograph

Q2. What will be the main highlight of your holiday?

- a) Hanging out at blues clubs and meeting people from different places
- b) Swimming in your private pool, sipping frozen drinks and enjoying the good life
- c) Seeing beautiful scenery, quaint villages and small antique stores
- d) Spotting A-list celebrities, shopping on the high street and dancing the night away

Q3. How long does your perfect vacation last?

- a) Not more than a week
- b) "Daddy's agreed to give me the villa for as long as I want!"
- c) Just the weekend will be enough
- d) As long as you don't get tired of good shopping and partying ;)

Q4. Where will you want to stay?

- a) Guest houses, cheap motels or whatever's convenient at the time
- b) An exclusive villa, with a host of servants at your beck and call
- c) A cozy bed and breakfast or even a caravan
- d) A funky hotel in the heart of the city

Q5. What does your luggage contain?

- a) Bare essentials; toothbrush, a tee-shirt and jeans
- b) One suitcase for my shoes, one for my Chihuahua's accessories ...
- c) An umbrella and lots of jumpers
- d) My digicam, sparkly tops and highest heels

Now to your Evaluation:

Mostly As: You'll be in heaven holidaying in a sombrero in Mexico or Brazil experiencing adventures and exploring unusual destinations.

Mostly Bs: Somewhere exclusive, rich and extremely famous for its "privacy" is the only kind of destination you will settle for. Preferably Cannes, Nice or Monaco.

Mostly Cs: You love nothing but the good ol' countryside. You would be happiest in places like Switzerland and Austria. The beauty will keep you in your best element.

Mostly Ds: A cosmopolitan city is your best pick. There you can shop, party and indulge to your heart's content. Try New York, Milan or London.



The Christian Value of Forgiveness

"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I'm right and I'll be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first, rock 'n' roll or Christianity." - John Lennon, in a 1966 interview.

Now, over forty years later, the Beatles have finally earned forgiveness for their heretical remark from the Catholic Church.

In 1966, at the height of their fame, the Fab Four earned worldwide condemnation from Christians everywhere and angered the Roman Catholic Church with John Lennon's infamous claim that the Beatles were bigger than Jesus in an interview.

(Of course, their enthusiastic pursuit of the "sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll" lifestyle did little to soothe the Vatican and convince them that they were anything but a thoroughly bad influence on the youth of the day, leading to a spate of attacks and heavy disapproval from the Catholic Church.)

However, a recent front-page article titled "Seven Years That Shook Music" in the *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican's official newspaper, stated that "They may not have been the best example for the youth of the day, but they were by no means the worst. Their beautiful melodies changed music and continue to give pleasure."

In a move sanctioned by Pope Benedict XVI, the article offers the band complete absolution, praising their "beautiful melodies" and even going as far as to proclaim them a "precious jewel."

In an astounding reversal, the Catholic Church has gone from being at the forefront of attacks forty years ago, to dismissing the blasphemous remarks, drug use and speculated Satanic messages hidden in the Beatles' music; even forgiving Lennon for his remark two years ago; insisting it had merely been the "boasting of an English working-class lad struggling to cope with unexpected success."

THE BEATLES

Vani Shriya, XI



"I go give to Bio Lab"- Sahil Sharman Suhag
I laugh much.

"What time is it in Bombay?"- Vikrant Puri
Time for you to dye your hair blonde.

"The bee's going to bite me"- Sarah Mirza
Why didn't it?

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