

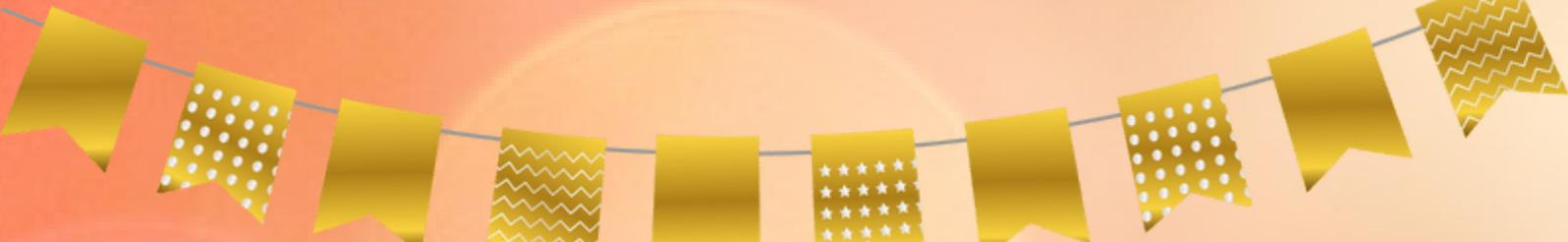
Volume 4

National Public School Koramangala

REVERBERANCE

1st October -31st October 2022 Newsletter





Dear Readers,

India's most valuable asset is that it is one of the youngest populations in the world. It is home to a fifth of the world's youth population. These young people are driving a culture of innovation and diversity. We have had a glimpse of this in the multidisciplinary interschool fest- IRIS 2022, hosted by our students of Grades 11 and 12. Besides this, there has been a lot happening in the school along with the cycle of tests and assessments.

PLEASE DO NOT MISS a very informative and interesting article by our alumnus Abhiram Nitin, now a student of the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, about what it takes to enter into the top law school of the country.



Achievements

Nand Vinchi of Grade 12 has been awarded the prestigious Atlas Fellowship India which includes a Rs. 10 Lakh scholarship, a free 11-day program in Oxford, UK, and access to a global community of ambitious individuals. The Atlas India Fellowship is a prestigious scholarship for students interested in science, philosophy, and the future. Nand was chosen among the top 10 winners out of thousands of applicants based on his achievements in various fields as well as a rigorous interview process that tested both knowledge and critical thinking.



**Please don't miss Nand Vincchi's
'ATLAS FELLOWSHIP
INDIA EXPERIENCE' on page 11**

Nand Vinchi

SOF 2021-22

Sohham S Joshi (Grade 8) was the State topper in the 7th Sanskrit Olympiad 2021-22

SPORTS

Prakaash Sarran (Grade 8) has won both singles and doubles at the Asian Tennis tournament under 14 held at Lucknow. He won Singles with 6-2 6-1 and it was a joint winning in the doubles.

Prakaash Sarran (Grade 8) also won the All India Ranking Championship Series under 18, singles and doubles event held at Jalandhar. This is his first under 18 title.



Prakaash Sarran



Riyansika Verma (Grade 7) earned a bronze medal in the GU13 category (3rd place finish) in the Junior National Squash Championship 2022 (15-21st Oct, Bombay Gymkhana, Mumbai).

She is the first ever squash player from Karnataka to receive a bronze.



Interschool events

Xavage

TISB conducted their commerce fest Xavage the 20th October, 2022.

Sara Parikh, Shraddha Chandramouli, Nikita Agarwal and Tejas Samparthkumar of 11C placed 2nd in Trojan's Trap, the shark tank event.

Dhruv Thimmaiah of 11C and Abhimanyu Nawani of 12C placed 2nd in Bulls and Bears, the mock stocks event.

Regium

National Public School, Indiranagar's fest Regium was conducted on 21st October, 2022.

Avni Kansal of 10B and Mridhula V of 11B placed first in the art event, Switch-a-sketch

Jaanya Wadhwa, Eshan Dinesh and Riya Nagar of 12B, Ananya Prakriti Singh and Maitreyi Verma of 11A and Mihika M of 11C placed in second in Antiquity, the fashion event.

Ranvit Bahirwani and Rishi Rajesh of 10A, Pranit Mukherjee and Akshaj Sharma of 10B, Sia Bhaiji, Abhinav S Iyer, and Pranav Bykampadi of 11A were the runners up of Magnum Opus, the dramatics event.

Aadya Kareti of 10A, Preethi Prabhu of 10B, Srijan Ghosh and Aarya Prashanth of 11A, Avyakta Voruganti of 11B, Aryavir Mohanty of 11C and Aaryan Vijai and Arjun Manoj of 12A were the runners up of Rhapsody, the Battle of the Bands event.

Anshi Dev of 10B, Siddhant Agarwal of 11A, and Anvita Verma of 12B were runners up of Mission C, the assassination-based escape room event.

Anirudd Archak of 10B bagged the first place in Punchline, the stand-up comedy event.



IRIS 2022- Interschool Fest

IRIS 2022 @ NPS Koramangala on 28th October 2022 was a celebration of youth, their passion, potential, positivity, and a promise that our future is secure in capable and caring hands. The multidisciplinary fest comprised a gamut of subjects ranging from science to commerce; maths to management; law to linguistics; stock market, gaming, and the most popular fashion and stand-up comedy. Students of Grades 11 and 12 worked assiduously for weeks together, right from ideating the events to finally executing the events- a cornucopia of choice for all to enjoy, compete and win.

In her address to nearly 300 participants from the 11 best schools from Bangalore and Mysore, the Principal Ms. Jyotsna Nair said that such interschool fests add much-needed joy and vitality to student life, especially after a long and difficult hiatus due to Covid 19. Ms. Nair also highlighted how new friendships and lifelong memories are fostered during such fests. After that the principal declared IRIS 2022 open where the most talented competitors locked horns in the contests that tested their intellectual agility, creative thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, speed, and innovation.



Ditching the cursed box of ancient Pandora, stand-up comedy donned a new avatar when the young jesters picked their comic cues from Pandora's Box. And when the creative juices mingled with the scientific temper it made a heady cocktail for all the science and poetry lovers. While the computer science event posed multiple programming problems, the contestants' armies were confronted on the battlefield where the deep knowledge of chemistry was the lone hope of survival.



After enough guzzling down of murder mysteries, it was time for real action- dabbling with forensic investigation and hooking the killer in the biology event, Sherlocked. All the events of the fest engaged the students in unique challenges whether it was the treasure hunt through the maze of algebra, and equations or enduring the roller coaster ride of the volatile stock market, or trying hands-on circuitry, and machine building in the thrilling physics event.

Clues were lost and found when the eager linguists applied their code decryption skills to the ultimate test in finding the key to the mystery of the missing librarian. Similarly, the exciting gaming, sizzling court trials, and managing the economic crisis proved to be nerve-wracking yet immensely stimulating.

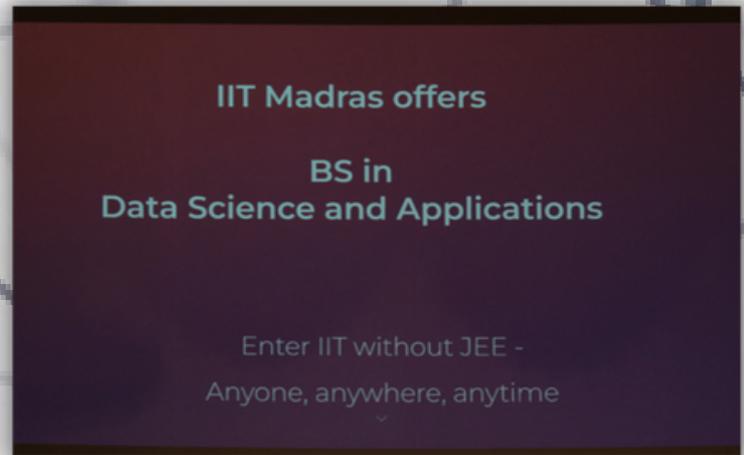


Finally came the most awaited moment, the fashion show- Descience- an amalgamation of design and science. This runway walk literally and figuratively lit the ramp with twinkling outfits which explained some cool science theories in an ingenious way. The fest, a tribute to the exhilarating world of multidisciplinary and youth energy concluded with a bang. Each team put their best foot forward winning accolades; however, it was NPS Indiranagar that took the overall trophy home.



IIT Madras session

On 7th October 2022, Dr. Jayakrishnan from IIT Madras conducted an informative and interactive session for Grades 11 and 12 students to explain the process and the benefits of IITM's BS in Data Science and Applications program launched in 2020. Dr. Jayakrishnan is the senior scientist at NPTEL and academic head of teaching practices in the B.S Project (in Data Science and Applications) at IIT Madras. The main attraction of the course is that it does not require JEE ranking and is a carefully designed highly flexible online program that offers students multiple entry and exit options where the learner can earn a certificate, diploma, or degree. It can be pursued along with any other course and has no age limit. In the Q and A session, students got their doubts cleared. Dr. Jayakrishnan motivated the students to take up the opportunity to become an alumnus of the prestigious IIT.



Awareness Session at Visvesvaraya Technological Museum

In the honour of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, NPSK organised a trip to Visvesvaraya Technological Museum on October 13th for a disaster awareness training session.

Mr. Sampath Sunand, the session's keynote speaker and a disaster management specialist from Bengaluru, guided the students on Risk Reduction in Disaster Management through interesting activities, quizzes, and discussions with peers. Students learned about new terms like the circle of influence, scene size up, and triage during this informative seminar. Disaster can strike at any time or place, but with fortitude and knowledge, we can prevail. The key lesson was that one must always maintain STRONG mental and emotional health, regardless of the circumstances.

NPS Konnect

On October 31st, an NPS connect seminar was held for the students of Grades 11 and 12. The speaker Mr. Manoj Ladi, conducted an engaging and enlightening session on the efficient management of our finances in adulthood.

Through real-life examples and thought-provoking questions, he emphasized on the value of financial integrity and provided practical tips on being financially independent and responsible.



Inter-house Science and Math Event

The inter-house math and science event, conducted by the Math and Science Clubs, took place on the 7th of October in the form of an engaging treasure hunt across the school campus. The treasure hunt was a race against time where four teams—one from each House— competed to solve riddles to receive the next clue. The first to reach the final location would be the winner. The school's floors were graphed using a floor plan and certain rooms were given coordinates on a Cartesian plane which corresponded to their respective clues.

Teams were asked to go around the school to find clues that would lead them to the next room and so on. However, if a team got stuck on a clue, getting a hint would give them a 5-minute time penalty. Going to the wrong room would result in a 10-minute penalty and failure to get the answer to any clue would add 15 minutes to their overall time.

At the end of the event— the team with the lowest overall time was the Voyagers— the winners. Following them were the Pioneers and in third place— the Challengers.



Challengers Team



Explorers Team

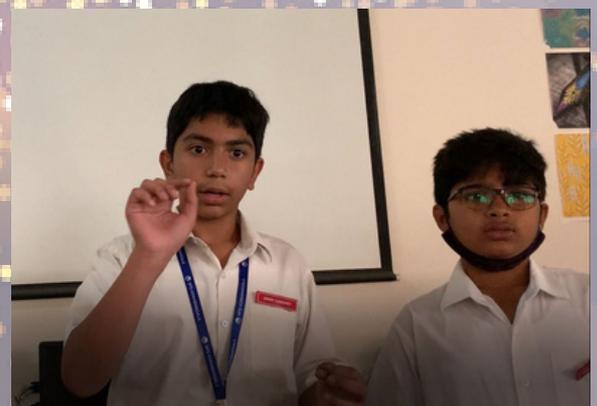
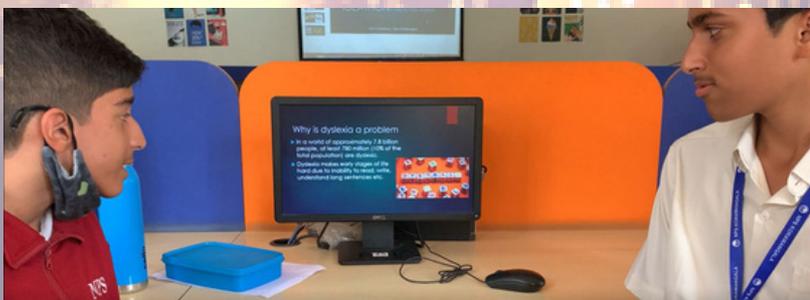
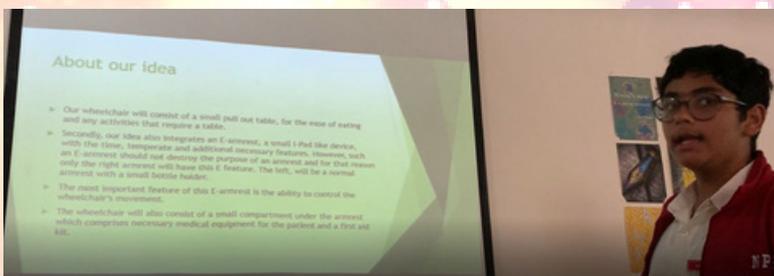
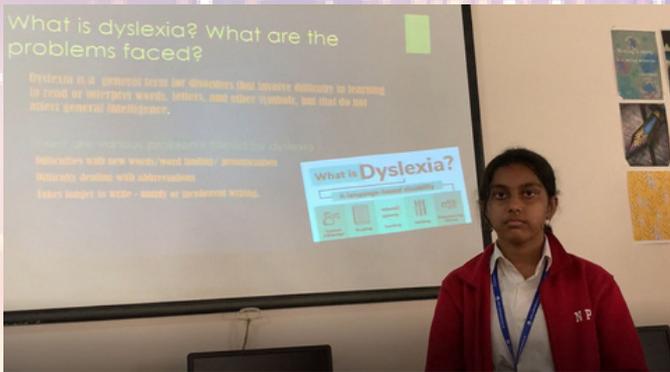


Pioneers Team



Inter-house Ideathon-Grades 6 to 8

The Cyber Club held the first-ever Inter-house Ideathon for Grades 6-8 on 19th October 2022. The topic given was **"Combating disability through technology"**. Students created a presentation showcasing their ideas. **Pioneers** emerged as winners. They presented an idea to help dyslexic students.



Atlas Fellowship India Experience **-by Nand Vinchhi (Grade 12)**

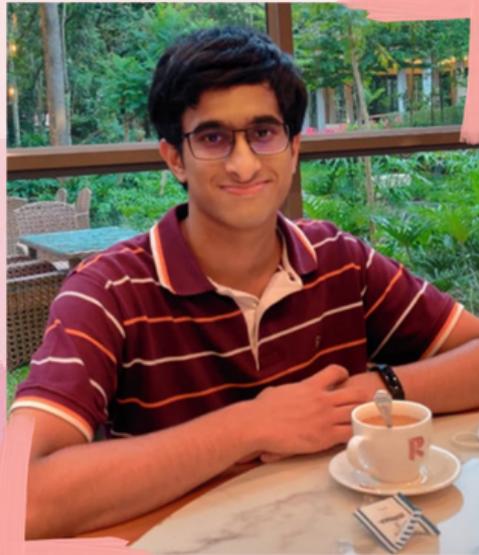
I attended a highly selective and elite 11-day program conducted by the Atlas Fellowship in Oxford, UK. It was a transformative experience. The Atlas Fellowship is funded by Open Philanthropy and Future Fund. They select students who show exceptional intellectual ability, ambition, and curiosity. I was one among 8 students who attended the UK program. The Atlas Fellowship is founded by Stanford alumnus Sydney Von Arx, Upenn M&T alumnus Ashley Lin, and Jonas Vollmer, who has had extensive experience in high-impact nonprofits and entrepreneurship. Apart from them the other instructors in this program are industry leaders in diverse fields.

The program consisted of intensive sessions as well as activities, guest lectures, and visits. The sessions focused on effective altruism, existential risk, and rationality.

Effective altruism is a project that aims to find the best ways to help others, and put them into practice. It's both a research field, which aims to identify the world's most pressing problems and the best solutions to them, and a practical community that aims to use those findings to do good. From conducting Fermi estimates to analyzing global poverty trends, the Atlas Fellowship sessions gave us the mathematical and reasoning tools required to solve big problems, and create the most impact possible. There were sessions focused on how to practice rationality. They taught us methods and strategies to better map the world and progress towards finding truth in any situation. For example, we practiced a method of debate called double crux, which I found to be particularly interesting and useful.

Lastly, and most importantly, Atlas wants to equip the young generation to tackle existential risk. The specific problems that we focused on are engineered pandemics / bioweapons and Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) risk. We extensively discussed pandemic prevention and controversial topics such as gain of function research. AGI risk is a problem that I did not consider important until attending the Atlas program. AGI is an intelligent agent that can understand or learn any intellectual task that a human being can. After seeing recent progress in machine learning, AGI is closer than we think. It would be incredibly powerful, and having the wrong values would make it harm the human race. The nature of machine learning models makes them pursue a single utility function, or goal, to the maximum. My mind was blown after hearing explanations for why it is one of the biggest problems we face. In particular, Goodhart's law and its applications to AI fascinated me. We were introduced to a new field of research called AI alignment, which aims to create AI that is aligned to human values. I was inspired by this effort, and I hope to contribute to this field later in my career. The program involved fun outdoor activities such as raft building as well as a day trip to Oxford University. Overall, it was an amazing experience, and the people I met there inspired me to think bigger.

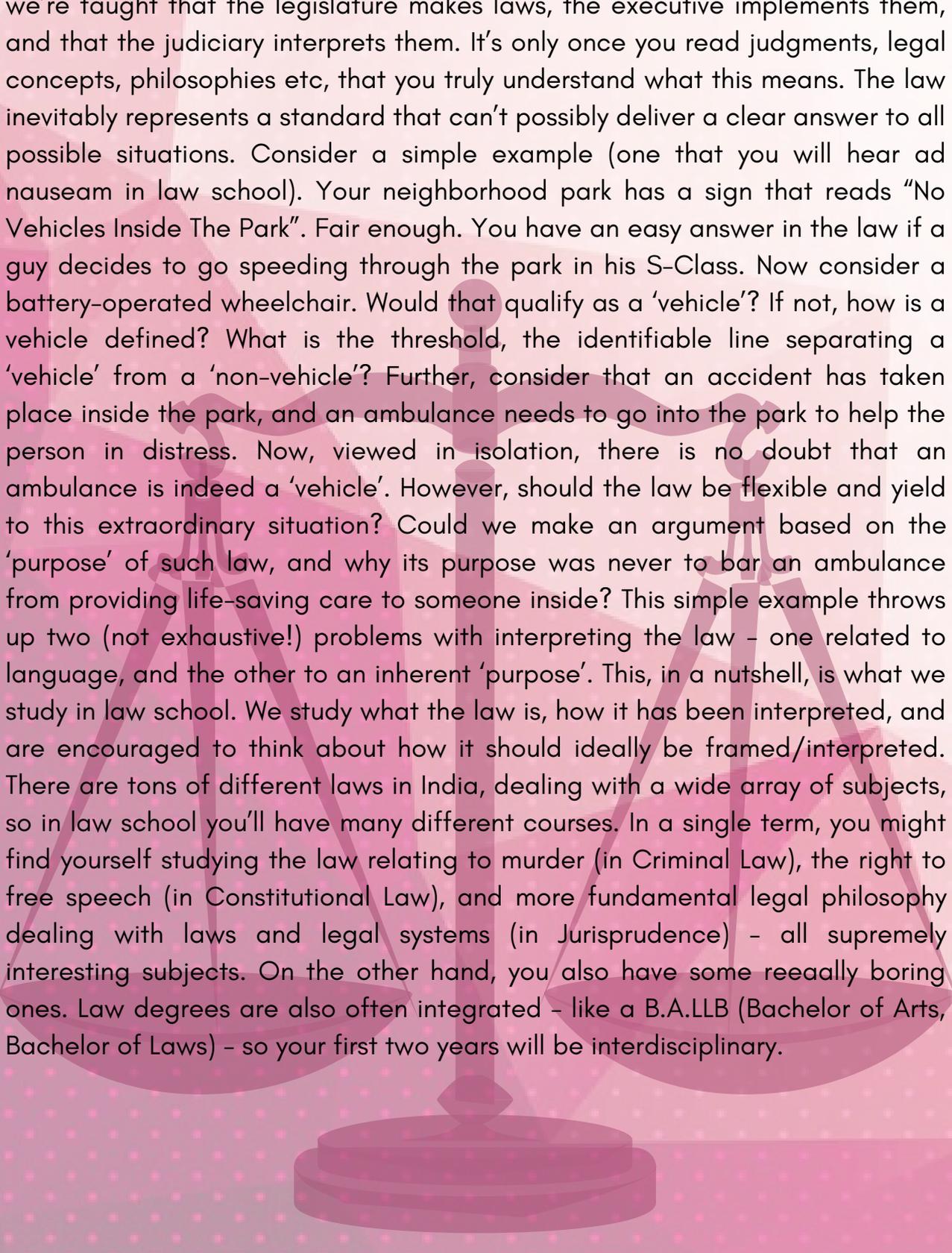
Udaan – Career Counselling



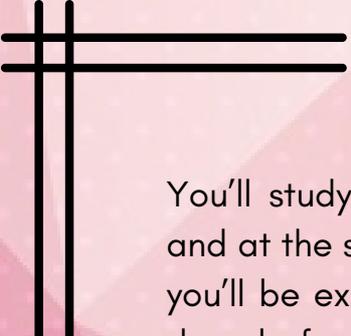
Abhiram Nitin
III Year, B.A., LL.B. (Hons.),
National Law School of India University, Bangalore

All about Laa Kaalej

At the end of tenth grade, I was sure I wanted to study law. Why? I really had no clue. I had had no real exposure to the subject or the profession, but could manufacture a coherent justification if required. What I realised when I stepped into law school was that I wasn't alone in feeling this way. Let's start with a reality check. The school curriculum – be it science, commerce, humanities, CBSE or ICSE – does not expose you to the concept of law, legal systems, research, or what it means to be a law student or a lawyer. The key takeaway from this is that it's okay for the decision to pursue law to not be a fully informed choice, or one that you can't clearly justify even to yourself. In fact, it very rarely is, unless you've done a large amount of prior reading, or perhaps have lawyers in your family that give you an idea of what it's all about.

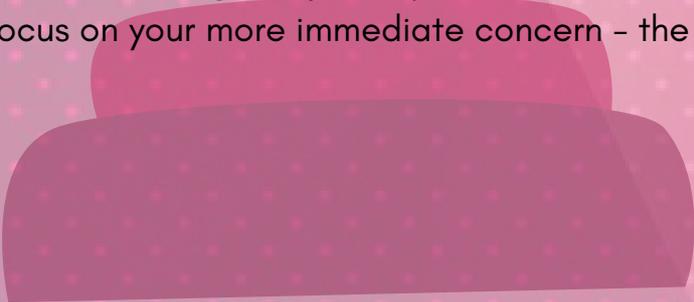


That being said, the study of the law can be fascinating. In the 6th grade, we're taught that the legislature makes laws, the executive implements them, and that the judiciary interprets them. It's only once you read judgments, legal concepts, philosophies etc, that you truly understand what this means. The law inevitably represents a standard that can't possibly deliver a clear answer to all possible situations. Consider a simple example (one that you will hear ad nauseam in law school). Your neighborhood park has a sign that reads "No Vehicles Inside The Park". Fair enough. You have an easy answer in the law if a guy decides to go speeding through the park in his S-Class. Now consider a battery-operated wheelchair. Would that qualify as a 'vehicle'? If not, how is a vehicle defined? What is the threshold, the identifiable line separating a 'vehicle' from a 'non-vehicle'? Further, consider that an accident has taken place inside the park, and an ambulance needs to go into the park to help the person in distress. Now, viewed in isolation, there is no doubt that an ambulance is indeed a 'vehicle'. However, should the law be flexible and yield to this extraordinary situation? Could we make an argument based on the 'purpose' of such law, and why its purpose was never to bar an ambulance from providing life-saving care to someone inside? This simple example throws up two (not exhaustive!) problems with interpreting the law - one related to language, and the other to an inherent 'purpose'. This, in a nutshell, is what we study in law school. We study what the law is, how it has been interpreted, and are encouraged to think about how it should ideally be framed/interpreted. There are tons of different laws in India, dealing with a wide array of subjects, so in law school you'll have many different courses. In a single term, you might find yourself studying the law relating to murder (in Criminal Law), the right to free speech (in Constitutional Law), and more fundamental legal philosophy dealing with laws and legal systems (in Jurisprudence) - all supremely interesting subjects. On the other hand, you also have some reeally boring ones. Law degrees are also often integrated - like a B.A.LLB (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws) - so your first two years will be interdisciplinary.



You'll study subjects like economics, sociology, political science and history, and at the same time, constitutional law, contract law and so on. In law school, you'll be expected to read, research and write to an extent that you've never done before. Class discussions in interesting courses (in some classes you'll just be fast asleep :p) can be extremely engaging and fun, and student participation is encouraged. Generally, whichever college you study in, you'll be required to make research projects, in which teachers generally appreciate some 'original' analysis or argument. Creative thinking and expression is highly rewarded. Of course, you can't do this effectively in every course you take - though some will be extremely interesting, some will just be too dead boring. Exams (in legal subjects), will generally test you on your ability to analyse and apply the law to hypotheticals. Outside of academics, you have activities like debating, negotiation and 'mooting'. If the last thing sounds unfamiliar, it's because it's a quintessential law school activity - where you argue a fictional legal dispute in front of a panel. Everything is frustratingly competitive, from academics to activities, so make sure you don't take that competitive spirit too seriously, it's really not worth it. We're also encouraged and required to intern multiple times over five years, and interning in different settings (like thinktanks, litigation firms, corporate firms etc) can give you a good idea of what these things involve, and help you make an eventual decision. Law school can only teach you so much about what your actual work as a lawyer will involve, and interning is crucial to gaining work experience and equipping yourself with the skills you need to finally be a lawyer.

Now that I've given you a primer of sorts on what to expect at law school, I'll focus on your more immediate concern - the entrance exams.



The Entrance Exam process

There are bunch of exams in the entrance process (AILET, LSAT India, SLAT etc), but the primary one is obviously CLAT - the 'Common Law Admission Test'. Unfortunately, CLAT too doesn't prepare you for what's to come in law school, but it's a necessary step in the process. The good news is that the process of preparation is fairly light compared to the other exams you'll see your friends taking (NEET, JEE). The process can easily be completed in a year, but can also be done in half that time if you're really willing to slog. The most important thing is to do as many mock tests as possible. You'll start seeing an improvement in your scores (both overall and in each individual section) in almost every mock you take, and you'll also manage time better, which is absolutely crucial. Joining a coaching institute really helps because you can freely use their study material, mock tests, clear doubts, and also follow their mock schedule, but I also know people who've aced CLAT without joining an institute. As long as you have the right resources, enough mock tests, and can work with a schedule independently, you should be fine. There are five sections in the CLAT paper - English Comprehension, Current Affairs and General Knowledge, Legal Reasoning, Logical Reasoning, and Quantitative Techniques (basic maths). A helpful strategy while preparing is to set time targets for each section, and also specific marks targets. You'll have clarity while attempting the paper, and will be able to do it efficiently and smartly. All questions are passage-based, so reading and being able to comprehend quickly is essential. You can practice speed-reading by reading literally anything, but things like newspaper editorials are a good place to start. The maths section is fairly simple, and only demands fast, and accurate calculations. The logical reasoning section mainly tests 'critical reasoning', which will focus on things like identifying arguments, evaluating statements, and making inferences and deductions from a given passage. Practicing critical reasoning through LSAT (the US one) papers and question banks can really help. The section on legal reasoning will not test any great knowledge of the law, but will require you to extract legal principle(s) from a given passage and apply them to some fact scenarios. It's probably the most relevant section of the paper, and also the most important and fun one. None of this really requires any special talent or knowledge, but just consistent practice.



Most of the paper is premised on making logical inferences, deductions, applications and conclusions, and the legal section is no different. Your study material will provide you with the basic knowledge of essential legal terms and concepts, and the rest is all about practice. The most annoying section of the paper (and unfortunately the one that will probably make all the difference), is the GK section. It's invariably the section that people spend most of their preparation time on. It mainly tests your knowledge of current affairs, so make sure you focus on important events etc in the two years prior to your exam, with a special focus on the last one year. Static GK questions will normally be asked when they're related to a certain recent event. A typical question set will consist of a passage related to a certain event, along with five or six questions related to that topic. Finding a monthly GK compendium online (VisionIAS, GKToday etc) and reading the newspaper everyday (or as often as you can), in addition of course to any material you get from a coaching institute or otherwise, can really help. It's important to make notes while studying GK, since it's more efficient and will help you revise later. Preparing this way will help for all the other law entrance exams as well, since they're all more or less based on the same concepts and test the same things. If you choose not to join an institute, and want to take the other entrance exams too, then make sure you take mock tests for those exams as well, interspersed with your CLAT tests, to familiarise yourself with those exam patterns.

Like I said, none of this stuff is really technical, and most sections, excluding GK, are based on logic and deduction. So the preparation process is relatively simple, and speaking from experience, it's a lot of fun to sit and watch your friends suffer with JEE or NEET while you're much more relaxed about things :).



Final Comments (I promise)

I know this has gotten too long, but in addition to telling y'all about the entrance tests and stuff, I also wanted to give you some idea of what to expect in law school, since I for one had no clue before I joined college. There are also tons of different paths you can choose once you graduate from college, and it can take a long time before you're able to decide (I still have no clue where I'm going). But those are all headaches for another day, because the important question for now is to be, or not to be, a law student. You also don't need to force yourself to take commerce, humanities etc in 11th and 12th instead of science if you want to study law. It's a misconception that they're more suited to law than science is. Your college life will mostly be independent of whatever you've done in school, so don't feel compelled to take a particular stream. Please don't sweat the entrance exam process, all it takes is some preparation and practice, based on abilities that most everyone has. Finally, once you finally get into law school, don't be too hard on yourself, it might take some time to figure out how to 'crack the code', but that's completely normal. All the best!

Teacher Speak



A Trip Down the Memory Lane

It has been a dream to visit the Sun temple at Konark. The first time I heard about it was during my geography class in Grade 6. The temple, the dance festival which happens in Konark, and the sand art by the famed Dr. Sudarshan Pattnaik were all in mind when I planned my trip. I left for Bhubhaneshwar by flight on the 24th of September. I reached Konark at 11 a.m, got down from the cab to a hot humid day. As I walked closer to the temple, the magnificence of the temple overtook me. A guide helped us know more about the temple. It was built in the 13th century by king Narasimhadeva of the Ganga dynasty and dedicated to the Sun god. The temple is designed like a chariot drawn by seven strong horses named after the seven meters of Sanskrit prosody - Gayatri, Brihati, Ushnih, Jagati, Trishtubha, Anushtubha, and Pankti. The temple is made from sedimentary rock which has got eroded over a period of time due to the salt in the air. Much of the temple is in ruins but is now being renovated by the government of Odisha. This temple is frequented by tourists from all over the world. This temple is also declared a UNESCO heritage site and the image of this temple can be found on the ten rupees currency note.

In the evening I visited the Puri Jagannath temple. The Jagannath Temple is dedicated to the Hindu god Jagannath, his brother Balabhadra, and sister Subhadra. It follows an 1800 tradition where each day a priest climbs atop the temple, to change the flag. This ritual has been in place for 1800 years. It is believed that if this ritual is ever missed, the temple will remain shut for the next 18 years. Did you know that the English word juggernaut was adapted from Sanskrit word Jagannath?

The next place to visit on the list was Chilka lake. It is the largest brackish water lake in the world and the main attraction was the sighting of the dolphins. I went on a three-hour relaxing boating trip. Evenings were reserved for long walks along blue flag beach which was close to the hotel where I stayed. Watching the sunrise and sunset was a big bonus for a person staying in a city.

The surprise in store was a visit to Dhauli Shanti stupa situated on the Daya river. The historical Kalinga war was fought on the banks of the Daya river. The stupa is a peace pagoda built by the Japan buddha sangha. This place is now being renovated by the Japanese government.

Having visited so many places and feeling satisfied I returned back home. One thing I missed seeing was the famous sand art. I hope to go back again to see the sand art and the famous Konark dance festival.

Ms. Mamtha H
Department of Science

Expression

Seasons

Seasons have reasons.
Summers are hot all day,
In the evenings, it's the perfect time to play.
Winters are cold,
That's when the best stories are told.
Spring has the perfect weather,
To have fun together.
Monsoons are chilly and wet,
It's not the best time to walk your pet.
Seasons have reasons.
You ask why?
Up high,
The earth revolves around the sun.
That's the end of the story, my friend.

-HR Gouri, 7B



-Trisha Kumara Velu, 12 A

Goodbye with this quote of **Swami Vivekananda**

The energy and dreams of young people have the potential to sustain the future. Keep a positive outlook and stay happy.



**Compiled by - Ms. Geeta Kathait with inputs from students and teachers.
Designed by Ms. Anupama Rao, Ms. Rashme Rajesh, Aryaroop Bose(11 B), Devarati
Mukherjee(10 B),
Ananya Sukruta Mysore(9B).**