

### A Tribute to the Pope of the People

Pope Francis's life was not painted in one colour, but in a mosaic of faith, intellect, compassion, courage, and humility — each shade speaking its own truth. Every shade in his journey spoke of service, reflection, and reform — together forming a story that touched hearts across the world.

#### Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina

**1936** Born as Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, to a simple, faith-filled Italian family

#### Joined the Society of Jesus

At the age of 21, he chose the Jesuit path — devoting his life to education, contemplation, and service. His heart opened to the quiet strength of spirituality, adding a deep and lasting shade to his life.

**1958**

#### From Bishop to Cardinal

Became Auxiliary Bishop (1992), then Archbishop of Buenos Aires (1998), created Cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 2001. He lived modestly, using public transport and cooking for himself — a deep shade of simplicity.

**1992-2001**

#### EARLY LIFE

##### A Student of Science

Studied chemistry and worked in a laboratory, his early life was shaded in curiosity and discipline, rooted in reason and discovery

#### Ordained a Catholic Priest

Ordained on December 13, 1969, he moved humbly among the people, reflecting a quiet shade of compassion and care.

**1969**

#### Elected as Pope Francis

First Pope from the Americas, first Jesuit, first to choose the name Francis — honouring St. Francis of Assisi, the saint of the poor, the humble and the earth...

**2013**

#### A Pope of the People

- Lived in a modest Vatican guesthouse
- Known for his smile, warmth, and courage to speak gently but clearly
- Promoted mercy over judgment, dialogue over division

#### A Peaceful Farewell

On 21 April 2025 (Easter Monday), at 07:35 CEST (UTC+02:00), Pope Francis took his last breath at the age of 88 at his papal residence, Domus Sanctae Marthae, in Vatican City, leaving the world a little softer, and a little more humane.

**2025**

#### The Four Universal Apostolic Preferences

During his papacy, he led with these guiding lights:

- Showing the Way to God through spiritual depth and discernment
- Walking with the Excluded standing beside the poor and marginalized
- Journeying with the Youth listening, guiding, and inspiring hope
- Caring for our Common Home protecting creation with urgency and love

#### Pope Francis (1936-2025)

A simple life, a strong faith, a global heart...

He will be remembered for the lives he quietly touched, for being a living mosaic of love, justice, and hope. His life reminds us that our thoughts, when shaped with care and compassion, become a mosaic worth sharing.

"The world tells us to seek success. God tells us to seek humility." — Pope Francis

Life is not black and white; it is a canvas of shifting hues—each one a voice, a feeling, a moment suspended in time. Every shade speaks because every thought, no matter how quiet or fleeting, carries its own weight. Like colours on a palette, our feelings—joy, sorrow, hope, doubt—blend and shape the mosaic of our inner world. Silence has tones, hesitation a texture, and even confusion holds its own rhythm.

In a world that seeks clarity, this mosaic reminds us to embrace complexity. Truth often hides in contrast, not uniformity. Every shade speaks is a quiet invitation to listen—not just to others, but to ourselves. To notice the spectrum within and appreciate the mosaic that makes us who we are. There is beauty in the unfinished, the layered, the unresolved — for it is there that understanding begins.

Just as the sky does not choose between light and shadow but holds them both at twilight, so too must we learn to live in the in-between—the space where meaning breathes.

**Fr. Sangeeth Raj, SJ**  
Principal

Life is relational at its core — a dynamic interplay of connection, friction, and growth. Like stones shaped by friction, our relationships refine us through tension, teaching patience, trust, and resilience. Our differences, though sometimes divisive, are what make bonds meaningful when navigated with grace. No one truly thrives alone; we are sustained by unseen threads of support—family, friends, even strangers who leave their mark. Shared joys multiply; shared sorrows lighten. Even conflict, when met with humility, deepens understanding. And beyond human ties, life's fullest meaning comes from anchoring ourselves in something greater—the Creator who designed us for connection.

To live fully is to embrace interdependence, recognizing that every encounter, whether smooth or strained, polishes us into wiser, more compassionate souls.

**Dr. Fr. Arokya Swamy, SJ**  
Manager

### Don't Judge by Tone Alone

Tone has power—it shapes how we perceive others. But let's not forget: not every harsh tone is rooted in arrogance, and not every gentle voice is filled with compassion. We often rush to conclusions, defining someone's character based solely on how they sound.

But life teaches us differently. Even the hardest stone holds cool water within, and gives life to tiny plants that grow around it. In the same way, a person who speaks with a firm voice might carry within them a heart full of warmth, joy, and kindness.

So, before you judge someone by their tone, take a moment. Look deeper. You might just find a beautiful soul behind the rough edges.

After all, a book's true worth is not in its cover, but in the story it holds within.

**Fr. Arul Antony, SJ**  
Vice Principal

We often think of prayer as something we do only when we feel strong, peaceful, or full of faith. But true prayer is not limited to our moments of clarity. It is born in the very heart of our human experience—in our fears, our questions, our grief, and our waiting.

To let every shade in your soul become a prayer means to stop filtering your heart before God. It means praying not only with your words, but with your tears, your silence, your weariness, and even your longing. These are not signs of weak faith—they are offerings of radical trust.

**"Let every shade in your soul become a prayer, for even your doubts and darkness can be offerings of trust."**

— Henri Nouwen

**Sr. Leeda D'Souza, SCCG**  
Headmistress





Read, enjoy, and if you wish to explore deeper, feel free to consult a dictionary.

## THE GHOST OF THE VILLAGE WELL - A tale that Shakespeare never told

In the heart of Bhoolpur, stood an ancient well near the banyan tree. Long abandoned, it had become the unofficial gathering spot for bored goats and idle poets.

But whispers grew like weeds.

"Thee must not linger near the well after dusk," warned Dadi Lajwanti, clutching her prayer beads.

"Why so, O Dadi?" asked Guddu, her twelve-year-old grandson and a self-declared ghost-buster of Bhoolpur.

"For 'tis haunted, child! A spirit abides there, and at moonrise, it speaketh in riddles and smells faintly of methi paratha."

Now, Guddu, being bold and just a little foolish, took it as his holy duty to investigate. Clad in his cricket pads (for protection) and holding a torch that blinked more than it lit, Guddu tiptoed to the well at midnight.

"Show thyself, foul apparition!" he cried.

A gust of wind whooshed past, and a silken voice echoed: "Who disturbs my slumber with cries most shrill? Speak, or be turned into bhindi!"

Out of the well floated a shimmering figure in a saree and bangles that jangled like alarm bells.

"Art thou the ghost?" Guddu squeaked.

"Aye," she said proudly. "I be Phoolmati Devi, once the queen of Bhoolpur Rangmanch Sabha."

"Why haunteth thee this well?" asked Guddu, kneeling in curiosity and terror.

"Because the villagers hast forgotten the well's glory! Here, once, did I draw water and gossipeth most artfully. Now, 'tis but a dump for empty chips packets!"

Guddu blinked.

"So... thou art angry... because the well is dirty?"

"Verily," sniffed Phoolmati Devi. "And none remember my final performance of 'Romeo Raja and Juliet Rani'. I desire justice!"

The next morning, Guddu made posters:

"CLEAN THE WELL - OR FACE THE WRATH OF THE DRAMA QUEEN GHOST!"

Terrified and mildly entertained, the villagers swept, scrubbed, and polished the well till it shone brighter than Bhooli aunty's forehead on Holi.

At night, Phoolmati Devi appeared once more.

"O brave Guddu, thou hath restored both my pride and thy village's hygiene. I now depart to the great Rangmanch in the sky!"

With a dramatic twirl, she vanished in a puff of rose-scented smoke.

Now, every year, Bhoolpur celebrates Phoolmati Day, with a ghost-themed play near the well and free methi parathas for all.

And Guddu? Well, he added 'Ghost Negotiator' to his resume.

(Dedicated to Shakespeare)



"Movies are a universal language, and through them, we can explore what it means to be human." - Christopher Nolan

## MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



**Zootopia (2016)**

"Life's a little bit messy. We all make mistakes. No matter what type of animal you are, change starts with you."

- Judy Hopps



**Wonder (2017)**

"I think there should be a rule that everyone in the world should get a standing ovation at least once in their lives." - Auggie



**Makdee (2002)**

"डर से जीतना है तो डर को पहचानो" - मास्टरजी



**The Blue Umbrella (2005)**

"The world can be a cruel place, but kindness can still be found in the most unexpected corners."

Doodled during your free time

Created secret handshakes with your friends

Fought over who'd be the 'smartboard monitor'

Waved to your friend across the corridor

Played Truth or Dare in the last row during a free period

# BINGO

TALES OF YOUR TIME AT SCHOOL!

HOW MANY CAN YOU TICK OFF? ✓

Wrote a poem or song lyrics instead of taking notes

Got scolded for saying, "But everyone was doing it!"

Had a 'lucky pen' for exams and refused to use anything else

Felt like a celebrity when juniors asked you for help

Acted like you were injured just so you could use the lift

Laughed so hard in class you couldn't breathe

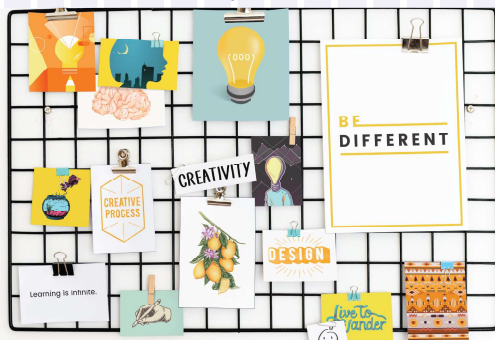
Cried over an 8/10 because your friend got a 9

## Do It Your self Vision Board

A vision board is a visual tool that helps you focus on your goals, dreams, and aspirations. It's a collage of images, words, and quotes representing what you want to achieve. By regularly looking at your vision board, you stay motivated and align your actions with your dreams, helping to manifest them into reality.

Let's Create Your First Vision Board:

- Decide Your Goals:** Reflect on what you want to achieve in life.
- Gather Materials:** Get a sheet or chart paper, magazines or newspapers, scissors, glue, and coloured pens or markers.
- Find Images & Words:** Cut out pictures and words that resonate with your goals.
- Arrange & Glue:** Arrange the images and words on the sheet/chart paper, then glue them down.
- Decorate:** Add personal touches, like affirmations or drawings. Let your artist shine as you decorate your vision board.
- Display It:** Place your vision board somewhere visible so you can see it every day.
- Review Often:** Look at it daily to stay motivated and focused on your dreams.



## Character of the Season MATILDA

Roald Dahl's Matilda Wormwood is no ordinary girl. Despite being only five years old, she is incredibly smart and loves reading books. But sadly, no one in her family understands her. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood, are not kind to her and always ignore her amazing abilities. They are more interested in watching TV and making money.

Matilda's real strength isn't just in her brains—it's in her kindness and sense of fairness. She believes in doing what is right, even when others are mean or unfair. When she goes to school, she meets Miss Honey, a kind teacher who sees how special Matilda is. Miss Honey believes in Matilda and guides her to the world of books, offering her a gateway to a new world of learning and discovery.

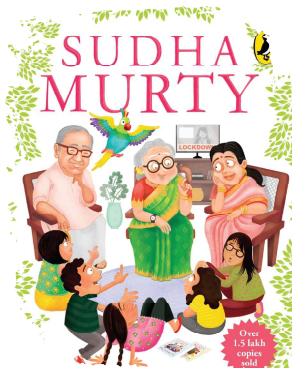
Throughout her journey, Matilda teaches us the importance of being kind, standing up for what is right, and believing in yourself, no matter what others think. She shows that even when things seem tough, being brave and doing the right thing can bring about great changes.

"I'M WONDERING WHAT TO READ NEXT." MATILDA SAID. "I'VE FINISHED ALL THE CHILDREN'S BOOKS." - MATILDA



"These books gave Matilda a hopeful and comforting message: You are not alone." - Roald Dahl

## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



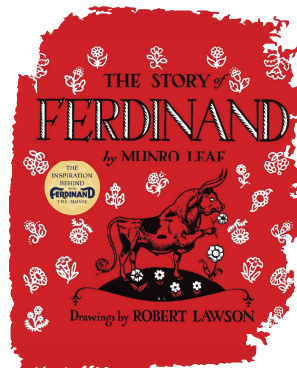
**Grandparents' Bag of Stories by Sudha Murty**

"We should always have some aim in life which we must try to achieve while being of help to others."



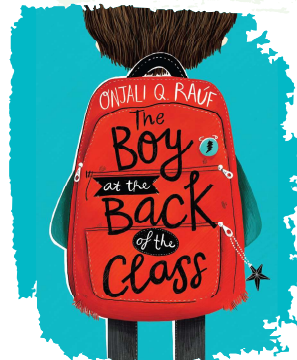
**Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery**

"People laugh at me because I use big words. But if you have big ideas, you have to use big words to express them, haven't you?"



**The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf**

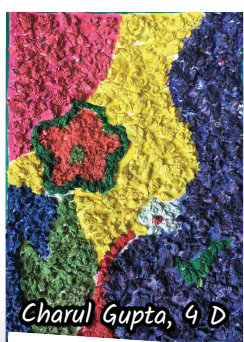
"And for all I know he is sitting there still, under his favourite cork tree, smelling the flowers just quietly."



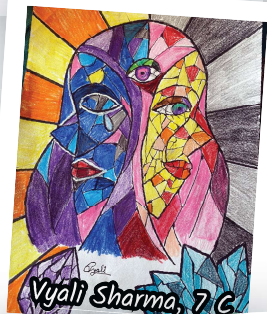
**The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Rauf**

"We can all be heroes in our own way."





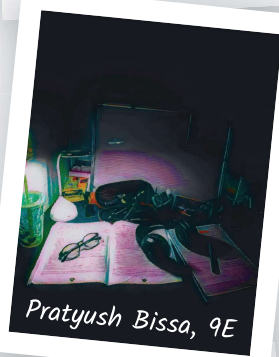
Charul Gupta, 4 D



Vyali Sharma, 7 C



Mohit Singh Rathore, 5D



Pratyush Bissa, 9E



Daksh Sharma, 12 E

### The Day My Daughter Rewrote a Fable

One warm summer afternoon, I came home after a long day at school. As I entered, my little girl—then just a first grader—was lying on her bed, cozy and ready for her afternoon nap. As part of our daily ritual, we began to share how our day had gone.

With sleepy eyes and a gentle smile, she told me that her teacher had narrated the story of The Two Friends and the Bear from Aesop's fables. I smiled knowingly, a story we had all grown up hearing.

Then came a pause.

She looked at me thoughtfully and said, "Mumma, I think the moral of the story is wrong."

I was intrigued. "Why do you say that?" I asked.

She replied, "If they were best friends for a long time, then just because of one mistake, they shouldn't stop being friends. That's not right. The other friend should have explained and forgiven him."

I sat there, awestruck.

How many times had we heard that story without ever questioning it? Without challenging its harsh moral that painted fear as betrayal and encouraged the ending of friendships over one moment of failure?

My daughter, in her innocence, had seen something deeper. She saw room for understanding, for correction, and for forgiveness. She taught me that true friendship is not about perfection, but about compassion.

That day, I realized children are not just growing up smarter—they are growing up kinder, more forgiving, and more emotionally aware.

And sometimes, we just need to pause and listen. Because in their simple words lies a wisdom, we adults often forget.

Ms. Oindrila Biswas

At Rainbow Elementary School, Miss Geeta gave her art class a curious task. "Today," she said, "listen to the colours. Each shade has something to say." The kids giggled. "Colours can't talk!" But when Miss Geeta dipped her brush into blue, they heard a soft voice: "I am calm seas and quiet thoughts." Aarav tried yellow. "I'm sunshine and laughter!" it cheered. Soon, red shouted about bravery, green whispered of growth, and purple spoke of dreams. Together, the class painted a giant mosaic. Every colour expressed a piece of their feelings and thoughts. Miss Geeta smiled. "See? Every shade speaks. And together, they tell a story—just like all of you." From then on, the kids knew: even colours can speak, if you just take the time to listen.

Amaaya Nair, 4 F

### The 400 Meter Race

There was a 400-meter race, and everyone was ready to run. The organizers told the group, "You all have to run this race."

But then, they did something different. They placed people at different points on the track. Some were at the starting line, while others were at the 200-meter mark. A few even had to start 15 meters behind the line.

Naturally, people started complaining. "This isn't fair!" they said. "How can we race if we're all starting in different places?"

The organizer looked at them and said, "But that is life, isn't it?"

"Do you recognize that in life? Sometimes you might already be at the 200-meter mark, while someone else is 50 meters behind the starting line. When you go out into the world, and meet people, or think about your own life — you start to wonder, 'Am I a success or a failure?' But remember, it's not about where you are right now. It's about where you started and how far you've come."

Harshit Buhadia, 11 A

क्यों  
सब जानते हैं,  
फिर क्यों अनजान  
बन जाते हैं?  
क्यों बाल-विवाह करवाते हैं?  
सब एक-दूसरे से कहते हैं,  
लड़कियाँ आशीर्वाद होती हैं,  
फिर उस आशीर्वाद को  
ज़िंदगी भर का शाप क्यों देते हैं?  
सबको सब कुछ पता है,  
फिर भी बेटियों को बोझ  
समझकर दहेज के नाम  
पर क्यों बेच देते हैं?  
क्या रे ज़ालिम दुनिया,  
खुद को पढ़ा-लिखा,  
समझदार बताती है,  
फिर क्यों बाल-विवाह करवाती है?  
अंकिता जेरिया, 9 A

### Medley Character

My soul's a quilt of light and shade,  
of songs I've sung and games I've played.  
A patchwork made from days gone by,  
of laughter, dreams, and tears that dry.  
The cracks don't dim the glow inside;  
they catch the sun and let it ride.  
And every flaw, each faded hue,  
just proves I've lived—and made it through.

Each moment is a coloured tile,  
some lined with grief, some wrapped in a smile.  
Together, though, they form a view—  
a vibrant whole, both old and new.  
I am not perfect, neat, or plain,  
but beauty grows from joy and strain.  
A tapestry soul—bright, brave, and true,  
shaped by all I've walked into.

Reeva Pareek, 11 D

### Amidst the Pressure

Pressure in a crowded mind,  
A test where rest is hard to find.

The guilt that cones with procrastination,  
Leads me to kill my imagination.

'Be the best they say' but do they know,  
The pain I suffer each day I grow.

They see the grades, the smiles, the light,  
But do they see the fright I fight each night.

Pressure is all they give,

But it's so hard to live

Within the calls of my heart,  
Urging me to restart.

Restart with what I want to do,  
Instead of feeling so timid and blue.

I want to get lost where the children run,  
Trade all my worries for some fun.

Amidst the Pressure I will find my path,  
And not worry about the aftermath.

I will run to where I belong,

Where being the imperfect me is not wrong.  
Ayana Gupta, 10 C

### Just Humans

We'll never be perfect,  
no matter how hard we try.

Some parts of us may shine,  
but mostly, they stay tangled.

How badly we long to be graceful—  
to be kind in every word,

gentle with every heart,

never meaning to hurt the pure, the tender soul.

But that's not how it goes;

it always turns out the other way.

Maybe we're more mess than meaning,  
more chaos than stillness,

carrying the weight with us.

Is that possible, though?

Aren't these the things that make us human?  
The imperfections, the tangled parts, the mess,

the chaos—

aren't they all just human traits?

So yes, it's okay to not be perfect.

It's okay to not be graceful.

And it's okay when things don't go as we want,  
even when we try our best.

After all, we are just humans.

Khyati Choudhary, 12 F

### Live

When you'll be standing,  
Before the door of death,

And the other side—Hades,

Waiting to take you away from the world,  
Will the position of yours still matter to you?

On your balcony,

In the autumn of life,  
Days falling and fading so fast.

Tell me, dear, would you  
remember your marks?

My dear, I presume you won't,  
Years later from now,

When you'll look back,

You'll fondly cherish the memories of now—  
And people's smiles beaming like stars,

Each giggling, each laughing.

So do not just exist—live;

Live these days,

For memories are a ride to the past.

So make sure you make

good ones till the end!

Pratyusha Sharma, 8A

### Music

The euphony it seizes,  
The vigour it besieges.

Unerringly known by the soul,  
It's the note that heals.

The former becomes foggy,

The time to come seems uncanny.  
The moment turns emerald,

Only the present is now dignitary.  
Suhela Satsangi, 11A

### The Palette Of Emotions

Colors speak to our heart,  
Red is love, a passionate start.

Blue is calm, a peaceful sea,  
Green is growth, for you and me.

Yellow's bright, like sunshine rays,  
Orange is fun, in happy days.

Purple's creative, a royal hue,  
Each color tells a story true.

Anaya Garg, 7 D





## POCKET ENCYCLOPAEDIA - GHIBLI ART

## The History of Ghibli

Studio Ghibli was founded in 1985 by Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata in Japan. They created magical films wherein each frame was hand-drawn with love, care, and imagination – no shortcuts. Ghibli films are known for their soft, watercolour-like backgrounds, gentle storytelling, magical worlds and strong emotional themes and quiet beauty.

## Ghibli Gen - Where Anime Meets AI

Ever wanted to see yourself in a magical cartoon world – where cats wear crowns, and the sky swirls like a dream? That's the magic of Ghibli-style AI art, the latest trend that's blowing up online!

## Who Started It?

Grant Slatton, a software engineer from Seattle, used AI to turn a photo of his family into a soft, dreamy Ghibli-style image. He posted it online, and BOOM – it went viral! Soon, everyone wanted to see themselves as a Ghibli character.

So, while AI gives us instant 'Ghibli-like' pictures, remember – the real Ghibli magic took years, not seconds. Swipe smart, and bow to the brushstroke!

## What Makes It Cool?

- 1. Anyone Can Be an Artist!** No drawing skills? No problem! Just upload a photo and get a beautiful animated version – instantly.
- 2. Tech Meets Nostalgia!** It's a perfect blend: AI fun for Gen Z + the cozy, classic feel of Ghibli that millennials grew up loving.

## But Hold On... There's a Flip Side.

- 1. Is It Fair?** Studio Ghibli never gave permission to use their style. Copying someone's art without asking? That's tricky territory.
- 2. Miyazaki Isn't a Fan** Hayao Miyazaki, the legendary creator behind Ghibli, once said AI art is "an insult to life itself."
- 3. Feeling vs Filtering** Real Ghibli art is made by hand, with heart. AI copies the look, but not the soul.



## GIGGLES

**Kid 1:** What's a ghost's favorite dessert?

**Kid 2:** A spooky pie?

**Kid 1:** I scream!

**Moon:** What do you call a sleeping bull?

**Sun:** A napper?

**Moon:** A bulldozer!

**Mamma Bear:** What do you call a bear that's stuck in the rain?

**Baby Bear:** A wet bear?

**Mamma Bear:** No, a drizzly bear!

**Baby Crow:** Why did the scarecrow win an award?

**Uncle Crow:** I don't know, why?

**Baby Crow:** Because he was outstanding in his field!

**Chick:** Why don't eggs tell jokes?

**Hen:** Hmm... why?

**Chick:** Because they might crack up!

## RIDDLES

1. How do you catch a school of fish?
2. What can travel around the world while staying in the corner?
3. The person who makes me doesn't need me; the person who buys me doesn't use me, and the person who uses me doesn't know it. What am I?
4. I am not alive, but I grow; I don't have lungs, but I need air; I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. What am I?
5. I have rivers without waters, mountains without rocks, and forests without trees. What am I?

Answers: 1. With a book worm 2. A Stamp 3. A Coffin 4. Fire 5. A Map

## Efforts by Team Excelsior

Suhela Satsangi, 11 B Ekansh Sharma, 10 F  
Riti Nirwan, 11 F Nandini Saxena, 12 F  
Kashvi Bundela, 10 A Vidushi Sharma, 8E  
Ishanee Tiwari, 10 D Samarthya Rajput, 11 C  
Arisha Biyani, 10 D Lavanya Kanodia, 12 D

Guided by Dr. Mamta Yadav

For feedback & suggestions, write to us at [stxaviersnevta@gmail.com](mailto:stxaviersnevta@gmail.com) & [xaviersexcelsior@gmail.com](mailto:xaviersexcelsior@gmail.com)

## Submit Your Creative Entries for: Excelsior Volume 9

Summer Greetings!

We're excited to announce that the making of our school magazine, **Excelsior – Volume 9**, is now underway. This year, our theme is inspired by the **2nd Universal Apostolic Preference of the Society of Jesus –**

## 'Walking with the Excluded'

. It's a broad theme that focuses on reconciliation, inclusion, justice, and much more.

We invite you to share creative write-ups that reflect the spirit of this theme. Your entries can be in the form of poems, articles, short stories, comic strips, clicks, art pieces or any other form of creative expression.

## Submission Guidelines:

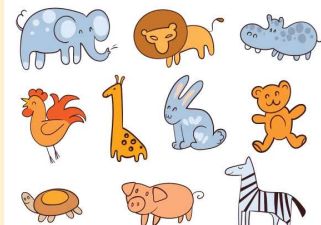
- Typed entries must be emailed to [xaviersexcelsior@gmail.com](mailto:xaviersexcelsior@gmail.com).
- Please mention your name, class, and section clearly.
- **Deadline:** 25th June, 2025
- Please note: All entries will be reviewed by the editorial team. **Plagiarized and AI-generated content will not be considered for publication.** Submission does not guarantee publication.

For any queries, feel free to reach out to the Excelsior Editorial Board or your Language Teachers. Stay Creative...

Team Excelsior



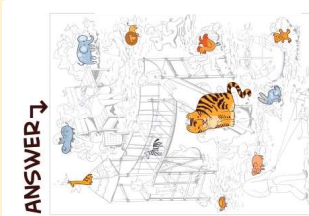
## FIND THE HIDDEN ANIMALS IN THE PICTURE



## BONUS!



FIND THE TIGER IN THE PICTURE



## 11 REASONS WHY 11 IS MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER - The Stories of 11

## A Palindrome

Read it forward or backward – it's still 11, that makes it a palindrome and super easy to spot.

## Make a Wish!

Ever seen 11:11 on the clock? Many people say it's the perfect time to make a wish. Try it next time!

## A Little Number Acrobat

When you rotate 11 by 180 degrees, it still looks like 11. (Try it on a calculator!)

## The 11 Rule in Math

There's a cool math trick: If the difference between the sum of digits in odd and even positions of a number is a multiple of 11, then the number is divisible by 11.

## Even the Moon Likes It

Apollo 11 was the mission that landed humans on the moon. That makes 11 a part of history that's literally out of this world!

## 11th Element on the Periodic Table

That would be Sodium (Na) – a tiny but essential element. Without it, our nerves wouldn't work, and our fries wouldn't taste as good!

## It's Prime Time

11 is a prime number, meaning it can only be divided by 1 and itself. Elite and exclusive!

## 11 Sides of Fun

In geometry, a shape with 11 sides is called a hendecagon. Try saying that five times fast!

## A Star in Sports

Football, Cricket and hockey also use 11 players on a team – it's the golden number for team spirit.

## Psalm 11 - A Song of Trust

A short but powerful passage about trusting in God when the world seems unstable. It reflects the strength and clarity that 11 can symbolize – a call to stay rooted in faith.

## The 11th Hour

This phrase means 'just in time' – a reminder that even when things are down to the wire, you can still make a difference.

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