



## BEYOND THE BINARY

— Parnika Rane

'Pride Month celebrates a community that places human dignity above all else. As we look toward June 2026, we examine the evolution of the binary, uncovering a narrative of identity that exists in India.

People who feel a connection to more than one gender have existed across cultures and throughout history, reflected in ancient stories, poetry, and folklore from around the world. Yet even today, those who identify this way, often find their experiences quietly set aside — sometimes even within communities that champion inclusion. India's Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 was a landmark step in legally recognising gender minorities. It brought hope and opened wider conversations about belonging and identity. While many welcome it as a meaningful step forward, others — including voices from within the community — feel there is still more ground to cover, particularly around personal recognition and stronger protections. As frameworks continue to evolve, we must move together, not exclude communities just because they 'don't fit'. This is why universal rights serve as an awareness that nor should our norms fit in boxes, neither should our laws.

## Caught on Camera

Clicked by Keemaya Makhija



Godavari Football team during the U-17 Interhouse Football Competition

## palette of Potential

Curated by Rahi Joshi



Artwork by Sadhvi Yashwant XII E

Smitha Negi, Parent of Advika Negi (VI A) and Nayanika Negi (XII E)

Gentle parenting to me is being connected, showing up as a real, emotionally present human not just an authority figure. It is also about being vulnerable as a parent, admitting mistakes, apologising and sharing feelings honestly. It strengthens trust!

Gentle parenting is rooted in listening, really listening to a child's emotions and perspective. It's about responding with empathy and love, while still guiding them with patience, clear boundaries, and respect. It's not just a method or a set of rules, but a mindful way of connecting.

## GLIMPSES OF HELPERS' DAY AT TKS

clicked by Mishka Parijat and Tannistha S.



Helpers' Day Special



## This Parents' Day, spend time bonding with your family!

— Ananya Komath

Cook a meal together – Sharing kitchen time builds skills and sparks conversation while making something delicious.

Volunteer for a cause – Helping others together, strengthens empathy and creates purposeful shared memories.



Play a board or video game – Friendly competition fosters teamwork and shared laughter in a relaxed setting.



Have a weekly movie night – Watching films together offers easy bonding and opportunities to discuss stories and feelings.

Go for a walk or hike – Walking side by side reduces pressure and encourages natural, meaningful chats.



## NAVIGATING 'GENTLE PARENTING': PARENTS SPEAK:

— Interviewed by Shreeya Zundaray

Akanskha Datta, Parent of Kaashvi Datta (XII E)

For me, gentle parenting is all about letting your child express in their own way and about acknowledging their emotions and feelings. I strongly believe frustration leads to nothing but yelling shouting and screaming, which would only worsen the situation.

Gentle parenting to me, means raising my child with empathy and patience instead of punishment, while still setting clear boundaries. It's about staying calm, understanding their feelings, and building a strong, trusting relationship as they grow.

Rashi Kathuria, Parent of Bani Kathuria (XI C)

According to me, gentle parenting is understanding my child's emotions. Responding rather than reacting. Increasing communication and connections with them. It also involves setting clear but respectful boundaries and focusing on teaching rather than punishing.

Archana Girme, Parent of Shrikanya Girme (X D):

Vrushali Shroff, Parent of Aarav Shroff (IV D)

## SUSTAINABILITY; NOT FOR US CITIZENS ALONE

— Niyati Asati

This environment day, recognising the true major contributors to the global carbon emission rates are equally, if not, more important to solving the ultimate goal of a sustainable future. Holding MNC's, 1<sup>st</sup> world countries and the top 1% accountable for their actions is the way to a united effort towards a better environment.

Of more than 400 million tonnes of plastic produced globally each year, only 9% is recycled (approx.). It is well known that plastic can take hundreds of years to break down, yet we continue to consume it, despite the environmental implications.

The real question here is, why is the consumer held responsible when these big corporate MNCs choose to package every possible product in plastic, simply because it is cheap and efficient. About 43% of the plastic made in India is used for packaging (UK Nonprofit-WRAP). These low value sachets, pouches and bags are not economical to recycle. Even committed efforts to go plastic free can collide with the scale of global plastic production and thus, the most feasible solution is better regulation. To achieve this, governments and companies must be held responsible by the public.

India has become the world's largest contributor to plastic pollution. Yet, what remains unseen is the fact that developed countries build factories and export waste to developing nations like India, which have lesser penalties and a need for employment. Holding people responsible must be supplemented with lesser plastic use and recycling, because only with consistent and combined efforts can we save our environment.

Environment Day Special

## FASCINATING FACTS

- In the 18th and 19th centuries, it was common to give infants alcohol (like gin) or morphine-based 'soothing syrups' to calm teething pain.
- In the 1920s and 30s, urban parents used metal 'baby cages' suspended outside apartment windows to ensure their infants got enough 'fresh air and sunlight'.
- Parents used to put braces on the child's left hand to force them to be right-handed.
- In the 1920s, parents were advised not to kiss or ever hug their children. Instead, they got handshakes and pats on the head to build independence.

Thank God we were born in the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

— Submitted by Airah Madaan and Nilanshu Prabhakar

PARENTS' DAY SPECIAL

## Diction Digest

### PROGENITOR

A formal, weightier name for a parent or ancestor, implying they are the 'origin' of one's life and strength

Synonym: ancestor / parent

Antonym: descendants

Sentence: As the progenitor of the family business, he made sure his children understood the importance of hard work.

— Submitted by Karan Nambisan

## Weekly Wisdom

"A parent's love is whole, no matter how many times divided." — Robert Brault

— Submitted by Karan Nambisan

## Meet The Editorial Squad

- Chief Editor - Ananya Komath (XII B)
- Head of Journalism - Niyati Asati (XII E)
- Journalists - Airah Madaan (VI D), Karan Nambisan (IX D), Kaashvi Datta (XII E), Nilanshu Prabhakar (VII C), Darsh Suneja (VIII A), Shreeya Zundaray (XI D), Pamika Rane (X B)
- Head of Photography - Mishka Parijat (XII E)
- Photographers - Keemaya Makhija (X B), Tannistha S. (XII B)
- Creative Head - Rahi Joshi (XII E)