World Braille day has been celebrated since 2019, which aims to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people. Braille is used by visually impaired people to read texts and learning braille means that they can enjoy reading for life. In particular, learning braille from a young age helps with literacy, as braille is a much better way to understand punctuation, grammar, and spelling than audio.

**Why do we mark this day?**

World Braille day is marked on 4 January to celebrate the invention of Braille by Louis Braille.

**Meet today’s global citizen:**

**LOUIS BRAILLE**

Louis Braille is a French educator and inventor who developed a system of reading and writing for visually impaired people called Braille that is extensively used today.

He was blinded in an accident at the age of three, but studied hard and excelled in his education, receiving a scholarship to France’s Royal Institute for Blind Youth. He invented the system in 1824 while a student and continued to refine the system throughout the whole life. His revolutionary invention has been used by numerous blind and partially sighted people even today.

**Questions for Discussion**

- How has Braille contributed to the visually impaired people’s participation in society?
- Do essential social services provide Braille in your community? Find in your school or village where Braille should be offered.
- What are the main challenges for blind people in pandemic situation?