

## New Kid On The Block:

# CLASH OF CLANS

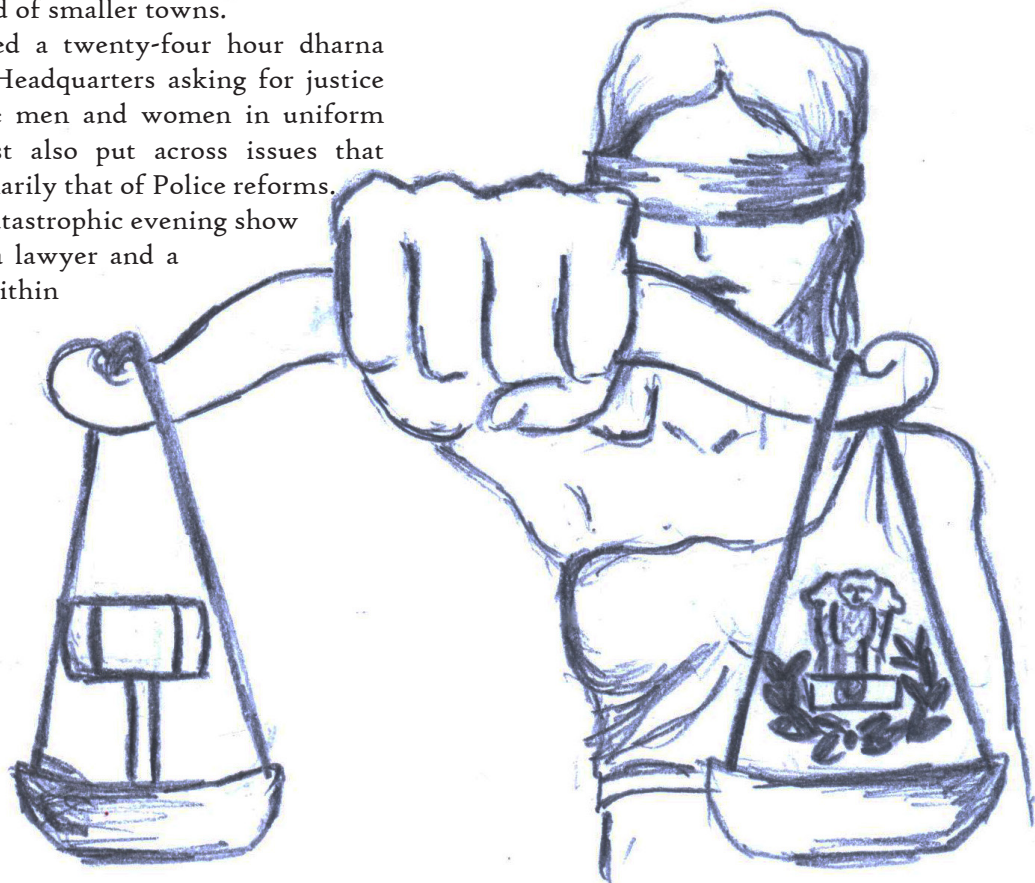
-Shashank Agarwal, XI

In what can only be described as a harsh reality check, a scuffle broke out in front of the Tis Hazari Court where at least twenty policemen and eight lawyers were injured during the scuffle. There was an argument between some lawyers and police personnel reportedly over a parking issue which took an ugly turn. It is indeed ironical to see two of the pillars of Democracy, one responsible to meet justice and the other to uphold the law, come to fists over what they ought to have protected. This incident is unprecedented in Independent India and has set before the country some significant issues that can no longer be ignored. Tis Hazari isn't the first time the fragile relationship between law and justice that as resulted in an act of violence, but it just the first time that it has got such traction merely for the fact that it took place in the National Capital instead of smaller towns.

The Delhi police staged a twenty-four hour dharna in front of the Police Headquarters asking for justice in times that leave the men and women in uniform vulnerable. The protest also put across issues that demands attention primarily that of Police reforms. The recordings of the catastrophic evening show an argument between a lawyer and a policeman which within

minutes turn violent. While the national news dedicated innumerable hours of airtime over debates trying to pin the blame on one end of the spectrum or the other. The crux of the matter remained that the two indispensable arms of Democracy took to the war path breaking the law instead of protecting and upholding it. While the political fraternity is using this matter to play a game of dog with the bone, it poses the difficult question of whether the Police are correct in pointing out en masse that often the protectors themselves require protection while those who are to preserve law, do not hesitate over breaking it. The mayhem that has ensued since then has jeopardised not just Delhi, but has thrown a pall over the Constitution of India and has shaken the entire country to its core.

Illustration: Nandini Garodia





The 24th Founders' celebrations bore witness to a masterful performance of the iconic play 'The Mouse Trap'. The School's Society for Dramatics did a splendid job in pulling off an expert adaptation of Agatha Christie's iconic play 'The Three Blind Mice', in an Indian setting. The play, set on a cozy homestay somewhere in Kufri, Himachal Pradesh; consisted of splendid performances from the cast all-round. The dramatic suspense of the play did nothing but rise until the very end when the identity of the murderer is revealed. The addition of a comic relief, in the form of a rich South-Indian man played by Nilay Dhakal adrift in the snowy hills of Himachal, was well received and appreciated by the audience. Other outstanding performances include the elegant portrayal of Mrs. Kumar played by Suhani Singhania. The performance that held the audience riveted was performed by Parthiv Gargo whose effortless portrayal of Mr. Kumar as the overprotective and perhaps slightly overbearing husband, set in perfectly with the mood of the play. Gayatri Sapru as the ever dissatisfied elitist Bengali retired Judge, Aparna Bannerjee was equally eccentric as she was snobbish. Nyukivi Chishi's portrayal of Colonel Pradhan centred more on body language than dialogues

and the actor carried it off flawlessly. As was intended in the script, Krish Agarwal's portrayal of Inspector Grover held the audience at the edge of their seats and his transformation from a logic driven investigative officer to a psychotic killer brought the dramatic tension of the play to its climax. Some of the scenes that remain well etched in memory is that of the killer, stretched out on the armchair and the eye to details like snow fall outside the window and snowflakes on the coats of the cast, come to mind.

Under the direction of Mr. Ranjeev Lal whose acumen to draw out the best from the cast and production, has now become legendary. The English Play lived up to the expectations and maintained its position as a significant draw at Founders. The set design by the Master-in-Charge Mr. Debnath Pyne drew kudos from all corners. The productions headed by Mrs. Priyankoo Kashyap did a stellar job yet again ensuring the clockwise precision of snowflakes to the sound of footsteps and the crackling wood at the fireplace. The assistance of Mrs. Rimjhim Ghosh Pyne helped put together a brilliant show perfected over countless exhaustive practice hours, adding to the allure of a chilly Founders' evening ringing with thunderous applause from the audience.



For the 24th Founders' day celebrations, the Hindi department staged the famous play by playwright Ajay Shukla, 'Taj Mahal Ka Tender'.

The play explores the twisted path of corruption, bureaucracy, and red tapism. It is a social and political satire, directed brilliantly by the Department of Hindi. It deals with the pressing issue of wide spread corruption in India. The dramatist has portrayed a situation where Shah Jahan, the Mughal Emperor, is reigning in today's times and intends to build the Taj Mahal to commemorate the death of his beloved. Shah Jahan, played by Archit Pathak, entrusts this task to his Chief Engineer Guptaji played by Aditya Upadhyay. Owing to

the deep rooted corruption he waits in vain till his death for just the tender to pass. Through several hilarious episodes, it showcases the greed, malice and shrewdness of the Chief Engineer and various other government officials involved.

With every delay and every bribe, the play reminds us of our reality, and even as it uses situational comedy to elicit laughs, it doesn't lose its darker context. The Hindi Department had taken the liberty to make few necessary changes in the script as suited for the occasion. Overall, the play was executed well, the audience's consistent laughter definitely proved so. Kudos to the cast, crew and affiliated teachers for staging an amazing show.



# NAVANANDINI

-Sieyina Meru, XII

A hush settled in the WMH on the afternoon of the 22nd of October as The Dance School presented before the august gathering their Founders' production titled Navanandini. Like the theme suggested, the dance recitals aimed to showcase the many facets of the Goddess Durga through different dance forms. The first performance was a Jugalbandi between Kathak and Sattriya an elegant reproduction of the serene beauty of the feminine, the epitome of which is the Goddess Durga. The Shiva Tandava was the next dance showcased in Odissi where the dancers exhibited intense energy and expressions matched with upbeat music and received a thunderous applause. Taking a detour from the theme

was the next presentation which was a western dance routine choreographed by Mr. Uday Shankar. The afternoon then saw an interesting choreography of a Chinese dance on fusion music complete with beautiful Chinese umbrellas. This was followed by a stellar hip-hop performance on a classical Chinese number mixed brilliantly with rhythm and beats. The final Dance performance was a grand display of the classical dance forms of Kathak and Odissi which was the highlight and celebrated the Navanandini by depicting the many avatars of Durga through various formations. The afternoon came to an end with tumultuous applause in appreciation of the performances from the audience.



# Cadence

-Ojas Krish, IX

Most certainly living up to its name, Cadence, the Musical Production for the 24th Founders' Celebration proved to be nothing short of a symphony, where all the major instruments and forms of music the School specialises in, got the appreciation and spotlight they deserved. The morning started off with a spectacular showcase of Indian music, where the Indian instrumentalists performed a flute piece that would have pleased Lord Krishna himself. It moved on to a creative ensemble of percussion, flute and vocals; an ear-pleasing rhythm, conducted by Mr. Mallar Rakshit. It was certainly a melodious way to start off what would be a musical morning. Following up on the Indian Instrumentalists, the Western instrumentalists out-did themselves as the Guitarists performed splendid numbers from the repertoires of classical music geniuses J.S Bach and Dmitri Shostakovich, mimicking the music one would hear while witnessing a chase scene in a movie. The Pianists performed a medley of popular songs, pulling

off an exceptionally heart touching performance with beautiful renditions of 'River Flows In You' and 'Kiss the Rain' by Yiruma.

The day went on with a soulful performance from the Indian Vocal Group, who collaborated with the percussionists to execute a soothing melody. It was followed up by the School's Western Instrumental Band's rendition of the hit-song 'Edge of Desire' by John Mayer. Both performances were equally spectacular. However, it can be said without a doubt that Mr. Pranjal Baruah's 'ringtone' orchestra of percussion, both Western and Indian stole the show. The performance was a perfect blend of skill, humour, passion and energy and more importantly a fusion of Western and Indian music. It was certainly a sound to behold.

The day ended with Shanmen Riddi's performing his IPSC winning number of 'Purple Rain' An impressive and powerful performance, it acted as icing on top of a well baked musical production.





# To Honor

-Aakangsha Dutta, XII

Founders, a word that encapsulates the culmination of efforts of not just students, but the entire AVS community. A word that rings through our minds and hearts, blanketing all of the emotions we feel throughout the year, a word that applauds ideas, free thinking and collaboration. The third day of Founders, famously called the Speed Day, is the Grand Finale that celebrates this spirit. The Mistress-of-Ceremony for the event was the Head girl, Aakangsha Dutta who led the congregation in prayer which was followed by the State Anthem and School Song, 'Pass it on'. The Chief Guest for the day was Dasho Karma Ura, President of the Centre for Bhutan Studies and GNH Research (Thimphu, Bhutan) a graduate of the eminent Magdalen College, Oxford and postgraduate of Edinburgh University. The Media Centre presented 'A Place for Us', an original composition curated by Aviators as an ode to the School, they call home. This was followed by 'Where the heart is' and '365 Days at AVS', a documentary shot by the Media Centre that captured the road to Founders and the very essence of AVS. The prestigious coffee table book of the Photographic Society, 'The Eye of the Camera', the Annual Founders' Magazine of AVE and the all-important Yearbook, publications that chronicled the life of Aviators across the year were released by the

Board of Governors and the dignitaries. What marks Founders all the more special is to hear the Chairman of the Board of Governors Mr. David Summerscale, deliver his annual speech where he spoke of his vision for the School and his memories of the legendary (late) Mr. B.M. Khaitan. The Headmaster, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal addressed the gathering next, taking the audience through the many achievements of the School, over the year. He also announced the much anticipated Founders' Awards. The Chief Guest Dasho Karma Ura addressed the gathering and spoke of his world famous initiative of Gross National Happiness of Bhutan, his love for Thangka art, the necessity of physical fitness and the importance of an 8-hour sleep, replete with anecdotes and memories from his childhood high up in the mountains of Bhutan. They were thought provoking and humorous, as they were inspirational. The School Captain, Ngukivi Chishi then took to the dais and spoke of his experience as a Prefect and a student leader but primarily, as an Aviator. The afternoon came to an end with the Western Choir performing beautifully a medley of songs starting with a 'Million Dreams' to 'Stand By Me' to Abba's, 'Thank you for the music' and impressed the crowd with their harmonisation and feet tapping numbers.

## FOUNDERS' AWARDS

2019

**Headmaster's Award for Consistent Outstanding Achievement In Academics (ISC Level):** Rashika Malpani

**Headmaster's Award for Consistent Outstanding Achievement In Academics (ICSE Level):** Naviya Chamariya

**Most Promising Scholar of The Year (ISC Level):** Ananya Singh

**Most Promising Scholar of The Year (ICSE Level):** Ishika Das

**Most Promising Scholar of The Year (Classes 7 & 8):** Aayat Hazarika

**Most Promising Scholar of The Year (Classes 5 & 6):** Saksham Jain Benjamin

**Commendable Progress in Academics (Upper School):** Thejazer Linyu

**Commendable Progress in Academics (Lower School):** Hemanshi Malik

**Reader of The Year:** Bommi Rebom Ngucho

**Most Promising Reader of The Year:** Urvee Rathi

**Indian Instrumental Musician of The Year:** Vansh Sharma

**Most Promising Indian Instrumental Musician of The Year:** Veasaj Goswami

**The Western Instrumental Musician of The Year:** Tushar Das

**The Most Promising Western Instrumental Musician of The Year:** Kedimen Jamir

**The Percussionist of The Year:** Aadit Ghosh

**The Most Promising Percussionist of The Year:** Swaptadeep Paul

**The Vocalist of The Year - Indian Music:** Sikunpriyaa Goswami

**The Most Promising Vocalist of The Year - Indian Music:** Shagun Agarwal

**The Vocalist of The Year - Western Music:** Shanmen Riddi

**The Most Promising Vocalist of The Year - Western Music:** Naavya Thapa

**The Dancer of The Year - Indian Dance:** Orihona S. Bikash  
**The Most Promising Dancer of The Year - Indian Dance:** Jigyasa Barsha  
**The Dancer of The Year - Western Dance:** Dhreety Haloi  
**The Most Promising Dancer of The Year - Western Dance:** Akansha Baruah  
**The Best Actor of The Year:** Ngukivi Chishi  
**The Most Promising Actor of The Year:** Shubhajeet Dasgupta  
**The Best Actress of The Year:** Aakangsha Dutta  
**The Most Promising Actress of The Year:** Indrani Nandy  
**The Best Art Work for Roy Mccomish Art Prize:** Bonolakshmi Brahma  
**The Most Promising Photographer of The Year:** Yash Raj Agarwal  
**The Most Promising Quizzer of The Year:** Vasumann Lohia  
**The Most Promising Debater of The Year:** Gayatri Sapru  
**The Most Promising MUN Delegate of The Year:** Sempisang Toy  
**Award for Excellence In Craft, Design & Technology:** Deep Ngangom  
**The Most Promising Sportsman of The Year:** Abbiso Pul  
**The Most Promising Sportswoman of The Year:** Anushcka Joshi  
**Carling Award for Academic Excellence (ISC):** Lune Lakshmi Dai  
**Carling Award for Academic Excellence (ICSE):** Ananya Singh  
**Scholar of The Year (ISC Level):** Rashika Malpani  
**Scholar of The Year (ICSE Level):** Naviya Chamariya  
**Scholar of The Year (Classes 7 & 8):** Aditya Panigrahi  
**Scholar of The Year (Classes 5 & 6):** Ishika Das  
**Most Versatile Musician of The Year:** Kapinjal Sharma  
**The Most Versatile Dancer of The Year:** Indrani Nandy  
**The Artist of The Year:** Shanmen Riddi  
**The Designer of The Year:** Ayang Borang  
**The Photographer of The Year:** Himangshu Baruah  
**The Best Debater of The Year:** Aakangsha Dutta  
**Headmaster's Gold Medal Debate:** Shashank Agarwal  
**Heather Carling Award for Dramatics:** Tamanna Tahrin Ahmed  
**The Best Quizzer of The Year:** Sempisang Toy  
**The Best MUN Delegate of The Year:** Harshika Deorah  
**The Print Media Journalist of The Year:** Nandini Garodia  
**The Electronic Media Journalist of The Year:** Avinash Pratim Sarmah  
**Sportsman of The Year:** Abdullah Ashraf Imdad  
**Sportswoman of The Year:** Namrata Baruah  
**Headmaster's Award for Event Management:** Rishita Dhelia  
**King Constantine Medal Promoting The Ideals of Round Square:** Sempisang Toy  
**Outstanding Contribution To Social Service:** Harsh Agarwal & Trisha Barua  
**The AVS Award for Pursuit of Excellence:** Himangshu Baruah  
**Stuti Pande Prize (Improvement, Determination & Perseverance):** Namrata Baruah  
**Best Young Pupil Award for General Proficiency (Lower School):** Diksha Baruah  
**Angshuman Nath Trophy for General Proficiency (Upper School):** Ngukivi Chishi  
**Chairman's Shield for Leadership:** Aakangsha Dutta  
**R. B. Magor Trophy 2018-19:**  
**Kopili Dhansiri**

## Think Again!

Guenther Schabowski, the former senior East German Communist official while giving a press conference in regard to the travel relaxation between East and West Germany accidentally replied to a journalist on when the Berlin Wall would be open for travel. After looking at the papers he was carrying he said, "Immediately", causing news channels to pick up on the timeline and stress exclusively on it. Thousands of people near the Wall came out on the streets in excitement. With so many people waiting to cross to the other side, the East German guards were outnumbered and consequently had to open the path through the Wall. Initially the travel passes with restrictions were to be issued the following day at the passport offices. Who would've guessed that history would be reshaped by a quick thoughtless word. The Berlin Wall would eventually be demolished in 1990.

# In Conversation

The Chief Guest for the day was Dasho Karma Ura, President of the Centre for Bhutan Studies and GNH Research. The AVE Team was lucky enough to catch a moment of his time to ask him a few questions.

*AVE: How do you think we can measure the Gross Happiness at AVS?*

**Dasho Karma Ura (DKU):** The simplest way you can do that is by structuring a survey, the format for the same can be downloaded from our website. We have ensured that it is there for the use of anyone working on similar projects. The gross happiness index of Bhutan is the only one that factors in the psychological health of the people.

*AVE: As an artist, which art form do you think represents your culture the best?*

**DKU:** Although Thangka art can seem restrictive and without depth as an art form however its objective is to provide to the people, a medium of connect with their spirituality and the lack of depth is to signify that we all exist on an equal plane in all aspects, be it belief, culture

or life.

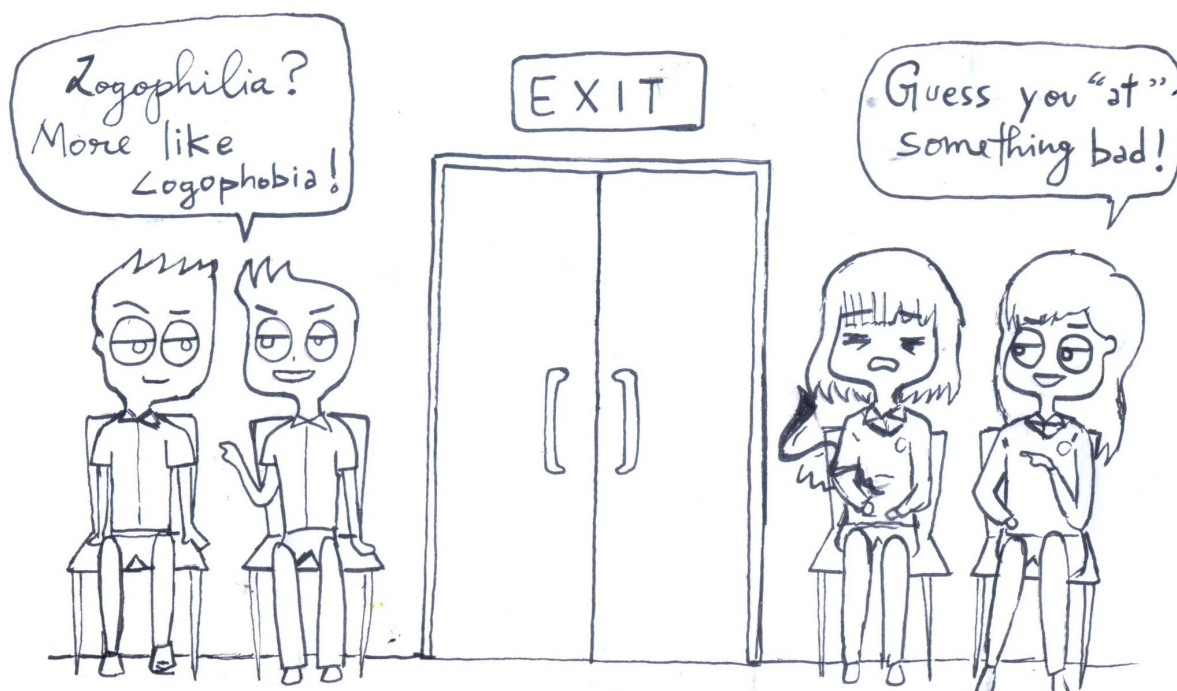
*AVE: As someone who has achieved so much in his life and has so many laurels, what is your most valued honor?*

**DKU:** Free Healthcare, as it provides a benefit to people across all social classes. I feel very strongly in giving to others and nothing makes me happier than helping those around me. Nor awards neither positions can bring such satisfaction.



## WORD POWER

-Eloziini Senachena, X





## Ripple #114

-Sunepienla Aier, XI

I was falling down  
Like how I did  
before  
But I could hold  
myself,  
Cause I relised,  
My ego was the  
gravity

## Tongue Of Slip!!

1. Why would she go to you with London  
- Jeremy Jahau, XI (*Because the bridge is falling down.*)
2. There is no need to LINGO at this of point -  
Ojas Krish, IX (*Look where that landed you.*)
3. Hurry up girls, the door get lock - Hriyanka  
Bhuyan, XI (*Your English teacher should lock you up.*)
4. Let's sit on the quadrilateral - Yuthika  
Kejriwal, XI (*Let's look at a different angle.*)
5. I think change showed do you guys  
-Letminlun Haokip, XI (*We remain unchanged.*)
6. Tongue of spill I have - Chumki Biswas, IX  
(*Thank you for your personal contribution*)

## Keep It Reel!

### The Heartland

-Parthiv Gargo, XI



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