

As sun-kissed faces return from a summer away from School, the heat continues to rage forewarning the road to the 24th Founders'. This semester, unlike its predecessor, will demand effort in unison to celebrate the spirit that is The Assam Valley School. With a change of guard, new days plan new ventures and they enthuse passion to think, create and build. While dear Aviators, you live your precious moments, we chronicle these priceless memories.

-Nandini Garodia, Editor-in-Chief

CLOCKING IN

-Letminlun Haokip, XI

A new era begins at The Assam Valley School, as Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal takes on charge as the fifth Head of School. Dr. Vimal, reputed for his popularity amongst his students has enjoyed an illustrious career as an educationist. The thirteen years he spent at The Doon School saw him champion a litany of achievements ranging from art to culture as well as sport. A teacher who shouldered multiple responsibilities, his style of leadership promoted creative freedom while encouraging individuality.

Apart from The Doon School, he has also taught at the Mayo College, Ajmer. Now at the helm of leadership at AVS, Dr. Vimal has begun his tenure by catching

the imagination of the community by introducing the 'Stop, Start and Continue' boxes. In his first address to the School, he laid down his vision to take the good to greater heights and the great to becoming a part of history.

Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, an avid photographer as well as a theatre and literary enthusiast, has a clear picture of where he wishes to see the School progress in the forthcoming years. Poised at the threshold of its 25th year, it will be this Captain's stewardship that will steer this mammoth ship to broader horizons. Hailing from the Capital, we hope he comes to call AVS his home away from home.



Photographer: Letminlun Haokip

GOLDEN WORDS

-Anoushka S. Rabha, XI

The Head of School's Gold Medal Debate, the most prestigious individual event to be held in School, is also one of the most awaited events of the AVS community. Held on the 11th of July, the motion for this year's debate was, 'The R.B. Magor Trophy precludes many Aviators from maximum participation in all spheres of life'.

The judges for the evening were Dr. Gargi Maitri, a reputed biologist, Dr Shivani Tyagi, a Corporate Trainer and Mr. Vivek Lohia, of the TATA Cancer Trust, an ardent debater himself.

Shouldering the responsibility of Chairing the debate was the Head Girl, Aakangsha Dutta, also the Captain of the Athenaeum with Veronica Chowdhury as the timekeeper.

The ensuing debate found some Speakers take the route of defence with wit and tact while others put up a strong argument with logic and facts.

Team Proposition comprised of Ojas Ayapilla, Ipshita Kashyap, Indrani Nandy, Gayatri Sapru and Nilay Dhakal who relentlessly advocated that the fight for the celebrated R.B Magor Trophy destroyed an individual's participation and placed expertise over effort. They argued that it also limited a student's social intelligence to the periphery of their Individual Houses alone. They pointed out that differences in individual capabilities were not appreciated nor encouraged and scouting for possible talents to train and teach, is limited. Achievements in this manner they proposed were merely incentives and did not inspire individuals to

learn and grow in their own rights. Its true purpose lost, they pointed out that Aviators have started to believe that every good deed must result in rewards.

The Opposition comprising of Aryan Khatuwala, Krish Aggarwal, Naviya Chamarya, Sashank Aggarwal and Aarav Jain argued that the R.B Magor ignited maximum participation, acting as a catalyst for House Spirit. The trophy is inclusive in nature and is a platform that allows students to come forward and showcase their talent. They argued that the Proposition had taken an extremely myopic view stressing merely that the fear of competition kept away the rest from seeking the best. Truth they stressed, lay in data that reflected that Inter-House Competitions coaxed even the meekest to put their best foot forward for their individual Houses for honour lay in winning the coveted trophy of the silver elephant as did individual development.

Neither Science nor Social Anthropology was left out in the course of the debate and Speakers made sure that their arguments also included, the occasional puns and witty remarks. Amidst examples drawn from the Obuntu tribe of Africa to Howard Gardners's Theory of Multiple Intelligences, through open floor arguments, the evening came to an end with Shashank Aggarwal of Team Opposition being awarded the coveted Head of School's Gold Medal while the Silver medal was a tie between Ipshita Kashyap and Gayatri Sapru of Team Proposition.

THE OUTPOST

Jakarta is sinking. It is no longer news. Bangalore officially runs out of groundwater in 2020 and rationing of water has begun. Sceptics and those who never get tired of denying that global warming is man-made, have claimed that the Amazon fires this year are a natural phenomenon but environmentalists assert that humans are the root cause of the blazes. The fact that Opposition parties have supported the revocation of Article 370 and 35A, even as Congress remains divided over it, indicates that the people of this democracy feel it's time for all Indians to be treated as equals.



In Exchange...

This summer, Aviators had the opportunity to visit China for the 2019 International Student's Summer Camp. Organized by the Beijing International Education Exchange Center, it was held in Beijing from July 15th to 24th. The School was represented by eight students under the guidance of Mr. Debnath Pyne. The fascinating and rich cultural heritage of China made it a trip to remember. The students took part in various activities and adventures from trekking the Great Wall to walking on the glass floor at a height of 258 meters and learning Chinese Calligraphy, among other things.



The Scindia School

The Exchange Programme with The Scindia School, Gwalior, took place from the 11th of May 2019 to the 18th of May. This exchange programme saw a batch of nine students with two teacher escorts visit campus and be a part of the School community.

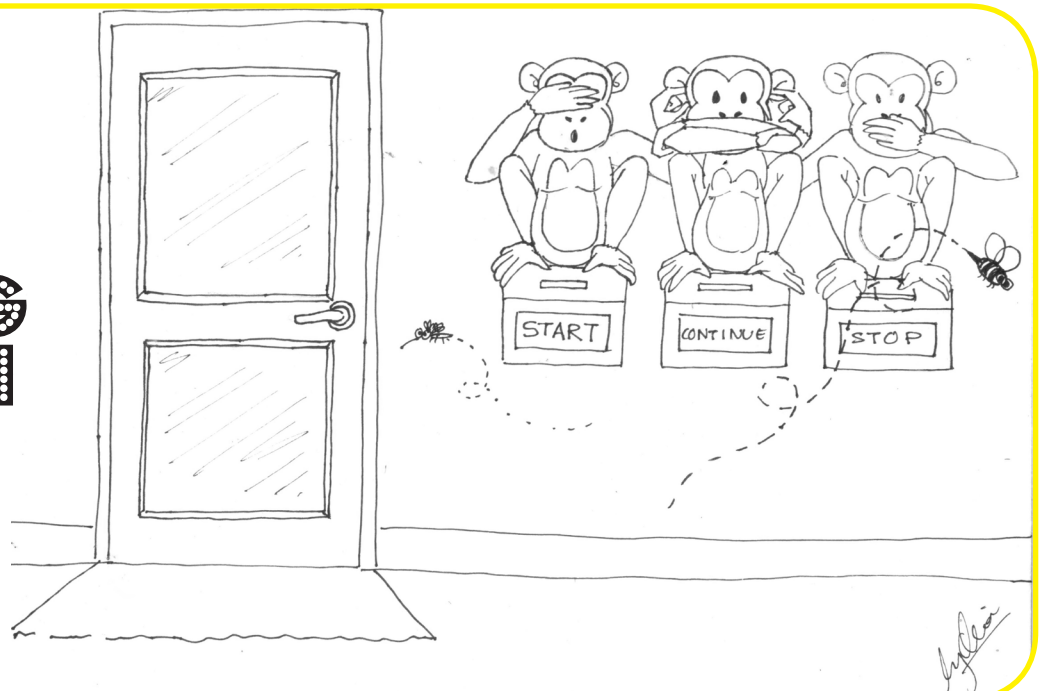


American Exchange

Tanya Ram of class 5 was a visiting exchange student from Austin, Texas, who spent the summer semester at school. A part of the Subhansiri House, she became very popular at Tihu and was known for her quick smile and cheerful demeanor.

BOXING MATCH

-Lydia Timungpi, XI



A SWAN DIVE INTO DARKNESS

-Parthiv Gargo, XI

Black Swan is a tragic, obsessive and gripping film about a ballerina's quest for perfection at the expense of her sanity. In this film, Aronofsky tells us the story of a ballet dancer, Nina (Natalie Portman), who undergoes a transformation while dealing with the pressures of playing The Swan Queen in her Company's production of The Swan Lake. This demanding role causes her to slowly crack under the massive professional and emotional exhaustion, especially as she struggles in the knowledge that her rival dancer could possibly take her spot. The effect is unsettling, frightening even but once one gets the hang of it, it's a roller-coaster ride. The pain and suffering that Nina goes through takes its toll early on in the film. She goes through a process by which her thoughts turn into hallucinations and blend with her reality to the point where she is unable to distinguish between the two. The cinematography and the crisp editing gives the film it's edge with the contrasting black and whites hinting at the good and evil, innocence and darkness. Although it is the grueling imagery of Black Swan which makes it so captivating, what really drew

me to this film were the nuances of the 'obsessed artist'. While this very subject has been explored across the ages with films like 'Whiplash' and 'All That Jazz' creating a niche for themselves, the protagonists in these movies finally find their peace in their art.

This steak of obsession is treated with a quantum of insanity in the Black Swan. Nina's obsession with perfection and her zeal to be better than the rest and achieve the pinnacle of artistic satisfaction begins an avalanche of sinister consequences. While she delivers the greatest performance of her life, her creative world merges into her reality and what unfolds becomes the cinematic experience that Aronofsky sets up his viewers for.

Aronofsky achieves the dark subtle dimension that exists between art and genius.

His brutal and uncompromising style may not cater to mass appeal but for anyone who connects to his style of storytelling, it becomes an experience worth the journey. For those with the courage to delve and drown, Black Swan will not disappoint.



Why You Should Care About Politics...

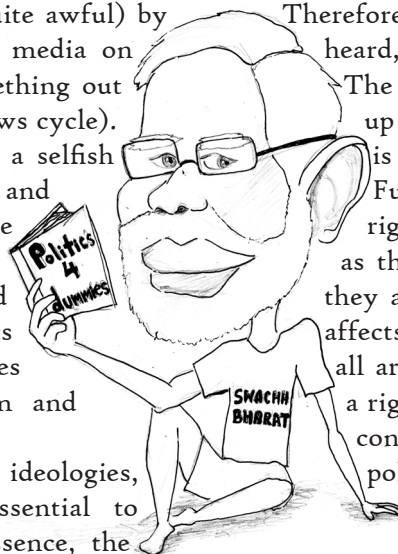
-Ojas Ayapilla, IX

Mention politics to most people and their eyes glaze over. Who can blame them? It's depressing, an endless display of bad behavior by self-serving and self-important narcissists. It is made to seem even worse than it is (which is already, really, quite awful) by the incessant chatter online and the media on screen (whose appetite to churn something out of nothing feeds the insatiable 24/7 news cycle). Therefore, the feeling that politics is a selfish pursuit and politicians a scheming cult and neither could bring about any positive change, is understandable. However, there is a whole other and even wonderful, side about Politics which if we could familiarize ourselves with, we could grow to learn from and appreciate.

Before delving fathoms-deep into ideologies, governments and theories, it is essential to understand that politics is, in its essence, the activities associated with a country's governance and therefore relevant to us all. Politics permits us an understanding of our society, of responsibilities

we have towards it and the rights we thereby enjoy. Understanding of politics allows us an informed voice that can transform an unheard cry, a silent plea or an urgent call into a policy that can help everyone.

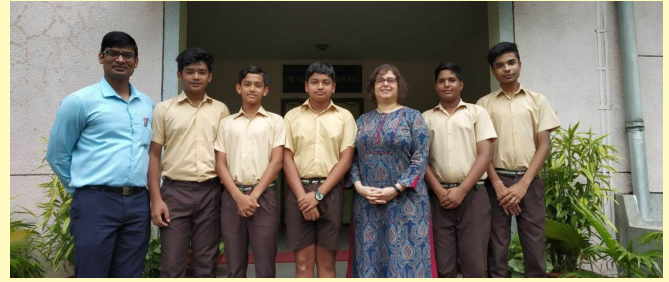
Therefore, how can we exercise our right to be heard, if people remain disinterested in politics? The misconception that politics is solely made up of argument, corruption and scandals is a fallacy. Furthermore, one of the most Fundamental Rights that we enjoy is the right to vote and a democracy is only as good as the people who exercise this right because they are aware that it shapes their society and affects their lives. The influence of politics is all around us. A protest right down a street is a right derived from politics. A news headline condemning or advocating a party is a toll of politics. Prices increased, airports shut down empowers us to question the policies of the government because politics teaches us it is our fundamental duty to do so. If we care about politics, we can realize a great ambition, to be a person who shapes the future.



CAMPUS NEWS



IPSC SQUASH



IPSC CHESS



TEACHER'S DAY



MOHAN DANCE FESTIVAL



IPSC IT FEST

The AVS Squash Team recently participated in the All India IPSC Squash Championship held from the 9th to the 13th of July 2019. The Under-14 team of AVS consisting of Aarnav Dutta, Kristanu Uzir and Shivansh Agarwal won the Bronze Medal in the team event after beating the Daly College in the playoffs to secure the 3rd position. The Under-17 team comprising of Yash Chauhan, Abhigyan Mishra, Aadish Jain and Jayan Palliwal secured the 6th position. The Under -19 team consisting of Kushal Sureka (AVS Squash Captain), Ngukivi Chishi and Gaurav Agarwal secured the 6th position in the tournament. We congratulate the Squash Team guided by Coach Mr. Devendra Verma for their performance in the Championship and wish them all the very best for their future endeavors.

The AVS Chess Team recently sent a contingency to the All India IPSC Boys Chess Championship, held from the 20th to the 22nd of July 2019. The Under-17 team of AVS, formed by Harshvardhan Keyal, Sujanveer Aatria, Arjun Chaliha and Abhigyan Mishra participated well and we wish them luck for the future.

The teachers collectively breathed a sigh of relief as Teacher's Day brought with it a break from the demanding schedule. A special tea was held to celebrate the day. We thank all our teachers for their contribution to AVS and wish them excellent days ahead.

The Department of Dance recently sent a contingency to the Mohan Dance Festival held at Goa, from the 28th to 31st of July 2019. Our students participated in this festival and brought laurels to the School. In Kathak Solo, Alda Nongmeikapam won first position. In Sattria Trio, Aastha Bora, Jevetha Seal and Saifi Raheek won first position. In the semi Kathak dance, the duo of Tanvi Agarwal and Alda Nongmeikapam won first position. In the Solo Sattriya Category, Jeevetha Seal won second position. In the Bihu Group Dance, Aastha Bora, Tanvi Agarwal, Jeevetha Seal, Saifi Raheek and Silpi Bora won second Place. In the Semi-Bharatnatyam Solo, Silpi Bora won third position. In the Odissi Solo, Ankita Sarkar won third position. In the Sattriya Senior Solo Category, Srishti Baruah won 3rd position. Last but not the least, in the Bihu Junior category, Aastha Bora won 4th place. Our heartiest congratulations to the team.

The Assam Valley School sent a team of 5 students with a teacher to participate in the IPSC IT Fest, 2019 to Hyderabad Public School, Begumpet. The team members were, Keshav Agarwal, Class 12, Himangshu Baruah, Class 12, Apit Agarwal, Class 12, Jayan Paliwal, Class 10 and Apurva Agarwal, Class 10, along with Mrs. Nabanita Jassal.

Ripple #107

-Jeremy Jahau, XI

The hand that
leads change o'er
time,
In an institute
nearing its prime.
Founding fathers'
give none a
breather
Beware ye' all the
Founders' Fever

Tongue of Slip!!

1. Please call the mechanic to fix the lights
- Arhata Saikia, XII (What a buzzing situation.)
2. Promoting a Asian Non-Asian Performance
- Harry George, XI (And you're both?)
3. This sandwich is too oinky - Jeremy Jahau, XI (Take out the bacon.)
4. I go movies to watch sometimes - Parthiv Gargo, XI (Watch your tongue.)
5. Did you watch Annabelle: Far From Home?
-Anisha Baruah, XI (No, but Spiderman did.)
6. You have to first go out to come out - Aditya Upadhyay, IX (And out with you too.)

Keep It Reel!

Line Lights

-Letminlun Haokip, XI

Editor-in-Chief: Nandini Garodia

Deputy Editor: Sieyina Meru

Associate Editor: Aakangsha Dutta, Sempisang Toy

Correspondents: Saziia, Jeremy, Anoushka, Letminlun, Eloziini & Moom

Design & Layout: Moom Lego & Jeremy Jahau

Illustrator: Takhe Tamo Reela

Photo Credits: Letminlun Haokip & Parthiv Gargo

Mistress-in-Charge: Ms. Sarmistha Paul Sarkar

Publisher: The Assam Valley School, P.O. Balipara, Dist. Sonitpur, Asom-784101, India

E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com