

ASSAM VALLEY EXPRESS
summer
SPECIAL 77TH ISSUE



Wildflowers and fireflies found their way through the vast stretch of greenery, and so did new faces and new ideas. They remain but fleeting thoughts unless harnessed by effort. These pages hold an amalgamation of anecdotes of spirits kept away from home now nestled in their mismatched nooks and corners. Some have sought to bring new light to the shadows flickering against the pocketed wings of the backstage. For others, it meant being freed from wrapped cocoons of their unimaginative lives to explore. To what transpired there, we bring you here in monochrome.



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SUMMER WORKSHOPS

The Cultural Affairs Committee guided by the teachers and student volunteers successfully conducted quite a good number of workshops over summer break. The aim was to provide the young ones a glimpse of possibilities that every activity has in store.

Dance

An Online Dance Workshop took place from 7th of July to 13th of July and was conducted by the Coordinator of Dance Department, Mrs. Rubi Bora Bordoloi along with Mrs. Torali Baruah. The students were taught basic Sattriya and Odissi steps with related terms. The Dance Captain, Kuhu Bakliwal helped execute the plan.

Playnomics

'Playnomics' Workshop for the students of Economics of classes 11 and 12 was held on 15th and 16th of July, 2021. The workshop was organised by Mrs. Rupali Borah, Teacher, Dept of Economics, in collaboration with Indian School of Business and Finance (ISBF). The fun-filled event was conducted in the form of games called 'Bulls and Bears' and 'Win Win' to make the students understand the functioning of the Share Market and World Trade

Gardening

An online workshop on Gardening was conducted on 28th July 2021 for all student enthusiasts who love the activity. The programme was co-ordinated by Mrs. Meenakshi Baruah Das and Mrs. Tamanna Seth who covered the A to Z of gardening, including basic gardening hacks and skills, types of famous gardens, different flowers and benefits of the activity.



Illustration: Anushka Jiani, IX



Camera Handling

A Workshop on Basic Camera Handling, the "Game of Lenses" was held from 1st August to 3rd August, 2021. The three-day workshop was conducted by The Electronic Media Centre of The Assam Valley School under the leadership of the Electronic Media Captain, Bornam Bora, and the MIC Mr. Tapash Das and Mr. Umesh Singh. Students from classes 5 to 12 were taught Basic Camera Handling, Cinematography, Filmmaking, Scripting, Lighting, Smartphone Photography and Videography tips. Mr. Debashis Gogoi (Ex-President of the Photography Club of Assam) was the resource person.

Card Making

On 6th & 7th August, 2021, a workshop on Handmade Cards was conducted for the Lower School students who were introduced to the basics of card making techniques followed by making a card called Napkin Fold Card. This card helped them apply their basic skills that they learnt during the workshop.

Public Speaking

A Public Speaking Workshop was conducted by Lower School English Coordinator, Mrs. Vinita Watts from 21st June to 2nd July 2021 for the new Lower School students of AVS. A The Public Speaking Workshop was conducted by Head of English Department, Dr. Pooja Jain Benjamin, from 21st June to 2nd July 2021 for the new Upper School students of AVS.

Essential Research Skills

An enlightening virtual session was conducted by alumnus, Head Boy 2016 batch, Rohan Nandy on Essential Research Skills for Humanities on 4th July. Head Boy Areeq Imran delivered the welcome address. A law graduate, Rohan started proceedings stressing on the importance of understanding the need for creative thinking and research. Recalling his days when he had to unravel the research methodology, he distinguished two key terms at the beginning- the research question and the research proposal. The need for authentic sources in marshaling data and analysis was dealt at length by him. He explained the need for following the course wise manual on a weekly basis progressing from the simple to the complex sources. Writing while reading has to go together so that the facts and analysis happens sequentially and are not disparate attempts. The need to have all information neatly classified for reference was also highlighted by him. The need for apps like notion and even citation machine for citation. He demonstrated live how to put in a citation for the benefit of the students. The need for academic integrity was paramount and Rohan urged students to follow it earnestly. He also cautioned about consequences about academic dishonesty. Rohan answered questions from the students on how to approach a research proposal. Teachers from the Department of History, Sociology and Physics were also present during the session. The session was moderated by Thajeb Ali Hazarika from the Political Science Department who offered the vote of thanks.

Craft and Design

Virtual Art & Craft, Design & Technology (CDT) workshops for new students was conducted by Art Captain Nilasha Bhimsaria and CDT Captain Luqmaan Ahmed along with Academics Captain, Adrija Das, on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th July, 2021. The Art workshop was on Cartooning and CDT workshop was on Origami techniques.

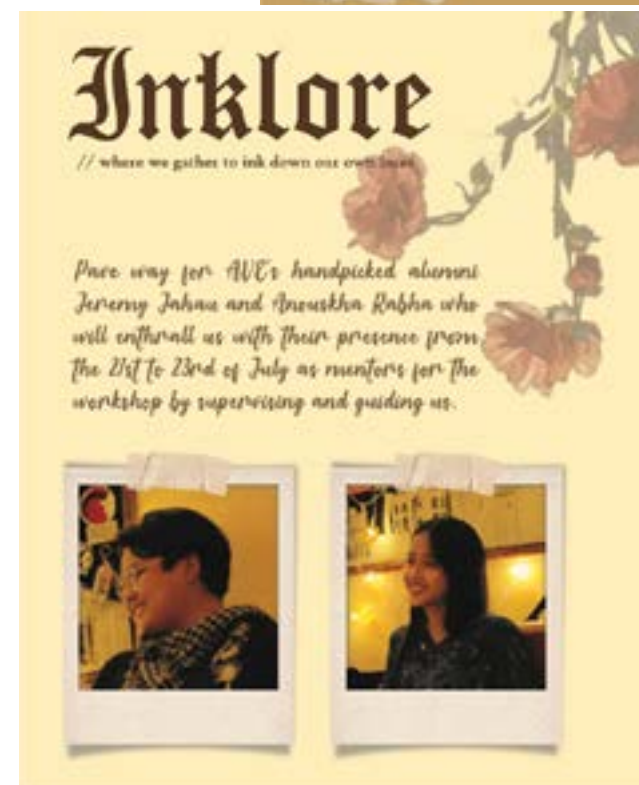
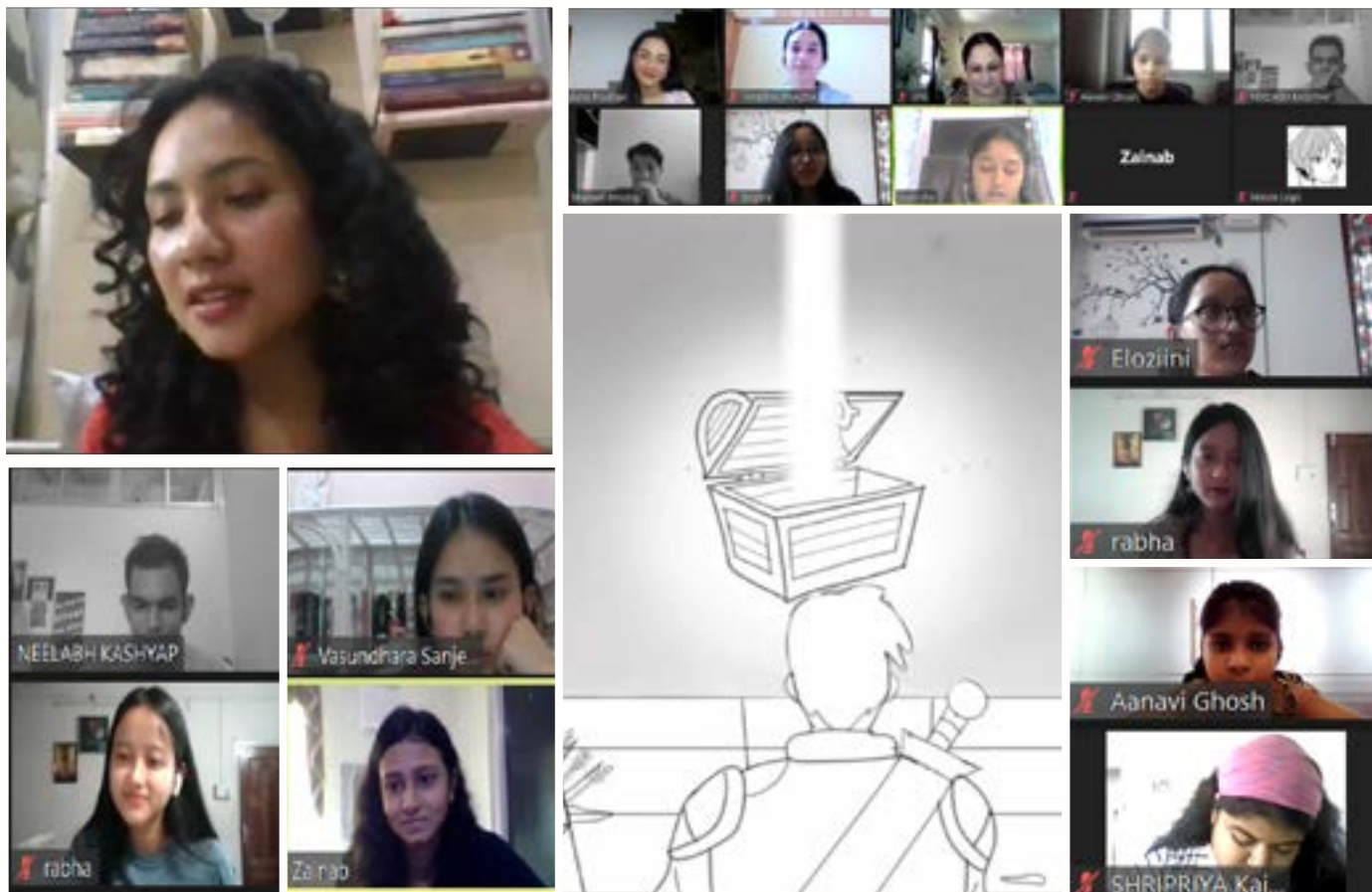
Story Telling

On 31st July, 2021 two story telling sessions were organised by the AVS Library Committee. The Resource Person, Ms. Chitralekha Bhaskar is a senior person from Scholastic India. Both the sessions were scintillating and thought provoking as Ms. Bhaskar had many quizzes and activities to keep the students mesmerized and involved.

Illustration: Anushka Jiani, IX

Ink Lore

The AVE Workshop Inklore was held from the 21st to the 23rd of July by the Editorial Board and had 40 participants. The three-day workshop saw three alumni Speakers from the field of Art and Media. The workshop saw each of the five groups compile, design, and present their newsletters. Individual performances were acknowledged and rewarded with specially designed certificates.



Posters: Tanisha Bhadra, Moom Lego, Kekhrisino Meyase
Illustration: Ssara Jha

Certificate Of Appreciation

The Assan Valley Express upon the recommendation of the members of The Room has conferred upon Kekhrisino Meyase this honour for having fulfilled all requirements and showing keen interest and intellect at "InkLore: A Workshop by AVE" as group leaders from the twenty first to the twenty third day of July, 2021.

Tanisha Bhadra
Moom Lego
Vidisha Kashyap
Sagarika Gogoi



DRAMATICS

The Inter-House Dramatics Competition, Carpe Diem 2021 was a grand affair and the first of its kind in the history of The Theatrical Society of AVS. The event was carried out completely online as students were sent back home from campus before the onset of May. Initially planned to be conducted in form of a One Act Play, the rules were changed keeping in mind COVID safety protocols of social distancing. The competition was divided into two categories- Monologue and Audio Play. After two months of ideating and shooting, the four houses finally assembled in the afternoon of 11th August for the Awards Ceremony of Carpe Diem over a virtual platform.

THE FINAL BARGAIN

Is Corona virus pandemic some form of divine justice? Is the deadly virus a warning from the heavens above to stop human kind's destructive behavior? The answer to this is in the dramatic monologue by Jinari- Manas. A quarrel takes place in the land beyond clouds between God and the devil as they try to find out ways on how to get justice for the wrong deeds done by humans on earth. The devil proceeds to say that no one is ever innocent which makes God think.



JINARI
MANAS

-Zaheen Shah, VIII

DESTINATION INDIA

"The diversity, which is what is keeping this country so divided not diversified". In this witty audio play, Jinari- Manas expose the ugly truth behind the curtains of glorious India.

The story follows as a misogynistic and racist head of the Rebirth Department Mukesh, who falsely advertises to his clients and glorifies India to be the perfect country that it is not. A girl from the North-East Maira, arrives at scene and spills out what a scam Mukesh and India is in front of a new client. It spoke about the prejudices India still nursed towards its minorities.

GATHER YE ROSEBUDS, WHILE YE MAY

A new addition to the Inter-Houses Dramatics, the Blue house took to the category of monologue like fish to water. Kaustav B Arya, A Class XII Lohitian, starred in this production as he delivered a very intense, emotional and chilling monologue; playing the part of a dying father sending a last, loving message to his daughter whom he has never met. His words of advice are accompanied with a beautiful, melodious musical score and various clever and meaningful idioms. We can all interpret this as a reminder that nothing is permanent, and we must be ourselves no matter what we are taught or led to believe.



THE PERFECT CHILD?

The Boroli- Lohit narrative play dealt with themes of angst, depression and suicide; the title an oxymoron; 'The Perfect Child.' The child in question, Raj, is an overachiever in school and beyond; praised by those around him. However, he has negated his mental health for the majority of his life to focus on what the society around him wanted for him; which drove him to hang himself in his room. This prompts a bout of investigation and understanding by his family. This play is a chilling reminder for us to respect and prioritize ourselves.

BHOROLI
LOHIT

-Ojas Krish, XI

LUCY THE DEVIL

The monologue category saw Lucy the devil, allot spots to criminals in hell according to their sins. To her surprise she finds out that many of the criminals had made an exchange offer with God Almighty or Cliff as he was commonly called. What happens next is a comedy of errors resulting in Lucy choking to death over laughter at her own joke. An interesting take in the after world, it the monologue rationalises that the power play common to earth may not be all that uncommon in the world beyond.



SUBANSIRI
NAMDANG

-Lavanya Adhikari, X

PUPPET MASTER

The audio play by Subansiri Namdang was engaging and revolved around the murder of Beatrice, Michael's wife. Michael and Beatrice are happily married and is expecting their first child. Michael has just been given a promotion and a raise at work and this becomes his bane. Jack and Michael are colleagues and the former nurses a deep grudge against this friend who seemed to have all the luck and love despite the fact that Jack did all the ground work for him. On a visit to Michaels house, finding Beatrice all alone, a trigger goes off in Jack and he murders her out of spite. All though deeply guilty for his action he now looks for ways to save himself from the keen eye of Detective Willis. A woman at the job she has to counter the incompetence of her subordinates to solve a case that quickly looks like the work of a deeply troubled mind. Despite Jack's attempt to disguise himself as a woman, his crime is discovered and he is brought to justice by Detective Willis.

STATUS QUO

"The world is fair a place but for a teenager."
Performed by Anushka Baruah the Cultural Captain, Kopili-Dhansiri had through this dramatic monologue rested on the theme of respect and acceptance perpetually sought by those in their teens.



DOUBLE DEATH

The audio theatre category of the Inter House Dramatics was as new to the audience as it was entertaining. Kopili- Dhansiri acted out a chilling murder mystery. The story revolved around the murder of a bachelor, Ashok Verma who's family is accused of conspiring against him. As each family member is investigated, an eerie music in the background helped create a suspenseful environment for the audience. With an unexpected twist in the end leading to a double murder, the play was perfect for those who love a good mystery.

KOPI LI
DHANSIRI

-Angelica Saikia, XI

HOUSE POSITIONS

1st - Jinari-Manas

2nd - Bhoroli-Lohit

3rd - Kopili-Dhansiri

4th - Subansiri-Namdang

AWARDS

MONOLOGUE

Best Performance: **Shubhajeet Dasgupta**

Best Script: **Tanisha Bhadra**

Shubhajeet Dasgupta & Sanjana Barooah

Best Sound: **Arjyadeep Shankar Mridha**

Best Director: **Shubhajeet Dasgupta**

Best Monologue: **The Final Bargain**

AUDIO PLAY

Best Actor (Male): **Kaustav Garg**

Best Actor (Female): **Naviya Chamariya**

Most Promising Actor (Male): **Shubhajeet Dasgupta**

Best Script: **Naviya Chamariya, Moom Lego & Tsoshenu John**

Shubhajeet Dasgupta & Sanjana Barooah

Best Sound: **Bornam Bora & Karun Thapa**

Arjyadeep Shankar Mridha

Best Editor: **Bornam Bora**

Arjyadeep Shankar Mridha

Best Director: **Bornam Bora**

Best Audio Play: **The Perfect Child**

ROUND

SQUARE

Illustration: Ssara Jha, X



The AVS Round Square Committee successfully organised yet another virtual conference of schools from around the globe. Twenty nine schools from five countries including United Kingdom, Oman, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India joined the conversation revolving around diversity, inclusion, stereotypes, uniqueness and world peace. The theme for this year was “Diversity is the art of thinking independently together”, advocating the first of the five IDEALS, Internationalism.

THE GRAND OPENING

“There are two ways of staying young. The first is to commit the follies of youth, and the second is to surround yourself with youth.”
-Ms. Gitanjali JB, Keynote Speaker

-Marwati Imsong, XII

As we step out of the depths, and the world dives headlong into recovering epochs, we catch yet another glimpse of one of the many areas conquered through the assistance of technology. The opening ceremony marked the start of the Round Square Symposium 2021 hosted by The Assam Valley School, with delegates present from all around the world joining forces on a virtual platform and introspecting on the theme “Diversity is the art of thinking independently together”. The Chairperson for the AVS Round Square Community, Trinayana Sakia gave a crisp speech on Diversity; followed by the Keynote speaker, Ms. Gitanjali JB who just seized the attention of the audience and mesmerized them with her never-ending fountain of stories and views. The delegates were also graced by the presence of Mrs. Rajbir Sandhu and Regional Director General Surendra Kulkarni. The opening ceremony ended with students eagerly asking a trail of questions to the Guests who readily answered them with much enthusiasm, before scurrying to their respective Barazza groups.



CLOSING CEREMONY

“Let our differences make a difference in the world.”
-Resolution, RS Symposium

-Aanya P Sarkar, VIII

Dr. Pooja Jain, the RS representative of The Assam Valley School began the closing ceremony by thanking delegates and the Barazza leaders for engaging in an enthusiastic discussion over the afternoon. Dr. Jain handed over the session to Trinayana Saikia, Student Chairperson of the Round Square committee at School who read out the resolution drawn over the Symposium and delivered the vote of thanks. Dr. Pooja Jain then opened the floor to feedbacks from the participating delegates who were very positive and encouraging in their response. The Symposium was a success and was an engaging and enriching experience for all.

IPSC

VISUAL ARTS FEST

-Raseen Shah, XII

“Creativity needs courage. And what is a better time to show courage than a pandemic?”

-Naviya Chamariya, School Captain

The opening ceremony of the first ever IPSC Virtual Arts Festival hosted by The Assam Valley School commenced on 9th August 2021 with the School Captain, Naviya Chamariya addressing the people from all over the world. Gracing the presence of all those who attended and prides in the cultural representation of the event, the Headmaster, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal set the ambience for the event by shedding light on the creation of art and how bringing art to life brings creativity and hope for better days.

The ceremony was then taken over by the guests all over the world. Dr. Kristof Fenyvesi (STEM researcher from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland) and Mrs. Shirin Kulkarni (Founder, Research Director of the Creative Education Council of Finland) talked about creating change by going beyond our capacities and the importance of encouraging vocational activities to make students independent and expressive. Dr. Pamela Burnard (Prof. of Creatives and Education in the University of Cambridge, UK) explained the concept of Inter-and-Trans-Disciplinary including expression through art. Prof. Pallawi Sinha (Educationist, Social Scientist, and lecturer at the University of Suffolk, UK), Prof. Werner Olivier (Founder, Director of Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Centre at the Nelson Mandela University in South Africa) and Prof. Carine Steyn (Academic Project Coordinator at the Nelson Mandela University, South Africa) talked about how creativity is connected to mathematical problem solving, offering students a chance at innovation and self-expression. It came to an end after the Q&A session and closing remarks by the Art Captain, Nilasha Bhimsaria.



STAR AVIATORS

The Doon School Model United Nations Conference was held from 29th to 31st of July, 2021 and Donovan Figg, XI (Delegate of Australia) was awarded Best Delegate in the Disarmament and International Security Committee.

AVS Team comprising of Naviya Chamariya, Anushcka Joshi, Trinayana Saikia, Donovan Figg and Aditi Thekedath made it to the Quarter Finals of The Shri Debates 2021 organised by Shri Ram School, Mousari.

KAMP-NASTA (National Assessment for Scientific temperament and Aptitude, 2020) was organised by CSIR-NISTADS one of the premier institutions and a constituent lab of CSIR, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India. The following students brought laurels to the school: Vasumann Lohia as the State topper and Ronit Dutta Roy, Sivdatta Thanjam, Krishna Agarwal, Aditya Panigrahi, Utkarsh Agarwal, Ethanael Kharkongor as district toppers.

The Doon School's The Young Entrepreneurs' Conference was organised from 22nd to 23rd July. Donovan Figg and Chesta Nowal won Runners Up in "Black Tuesday Relief Commission". Shripriya Kalaria and Barsha Goel took part in X-Pitch: Social Entrepreneurship Pitch Competition. Aarav Jain and Utkarsh Jajodia took part in "Into the Bullpen", a stock simulation competition.

Aarav Jain, Kristanu Uzir, Ojasvi Agarwal, Utkarsh Jajodia took part in The Quadspark organised by IISc Bangalore on the 20th of June. Their cumulative score was 93.5.

Ojas Ayapilla of Class XI HB, who participated as the delegate of the Russian Federation in the Singapore International School MUN Conclave, was awarded the Best Delegate of the United Nations Security Council in the conference.

Raseen Mohsina Shah of class 12 humanities was awarded a verbal mention in the United Nations Women Committee in the IMUN Online Conference. She participated as the Delegate of Panama.

The IPSC Virtual Literary Festival was organised by Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls' Public School, Jodhpur from 13th to 15th of August. Shubhajeet Dasgupta, Alka Jhawar, Vasundhara Sanjenbam and Pratiti Baruah from AVS were awarded certificates for Excellent Winners.

A competition on "An International Inter-School Entrepreneurship and Innovation Challenge" was organised by IIM Calcutta on 12th of August, 2021. Out of 64 schools spanning from Singapore to Nigeria, from Abu Dhabi to Chennai, 24 schools qualified for the semi-final and The Assam Valley School students were among them.

AVS team comprising of students Aarav Jain, Vasumann Lohia, Utkarsh Jajodia, Naman Tibrewal reached the final round of Inter School Mathematics Quiz organised by Unison World School, Dehradun in collaboration with Monash University, Australia on 11th of August.

Modern High School for Girls, Kolkata at "Grooves" awarded the first position in Affinity to Priyanchi Sharma and Kuhu Bakliwal for Sattriya and Kalbeliya Duet.

An Inter School Art Competition called Spectrum was organised by Unison World School, Dehradun. Karun Thapa won 3rd place in Draw Motion, Sourav Khodal won 3rd place in Wordface and Krishna Agarwal won 3rd place in Steampunkland.

CAMPUS NEWS

Let's Get Quizzical

A fun literary quiz, 'Let's Get Quizzical' was hosted by the English Department and conducted by Quiz Mistress Dr. Pooja Jain, Head of the Department, on Saturday, 10th July, 2021. The teams and audience saw questions from 6 rounds. It was a learning and enriching experience for all.

Art for life

Anushcka Joshi's Artwork 'LUSH LIFE' is shortlisted for the "Khula Aasmaan" Art Contest for July 2021, India Art Gallery, Art India Foundation, Pune. The original artwork has gone into the next round of judging to decide the award of Medals (Gold, Silver and Bronze) apart from Certificate of Honorable Mention.

Khula Aasmaan will create a dedicated web page for Anushcka Joshi which will feature her art portfolio for the next 3 years.

Library Committee

The AVS Library Committee organised a story telling session for the students of classes 5 & 6 on 5th July, 2021. The session was conducted by Global Hunt Foundation (GHF), Bangalore by Ms. Megha Kaushik who engaged the students with various stories.

Techradiance

Students of classes 5 to 8 registered individually on telegram channel for Code with Robot Bootcamp workshop conducted by Techradiance. Students of classes 9 to 12 registered individually on telegram channel for Cyber Security- Ethical Hacking workshop conducted by Techradiance.

Webinars and Panel Discussions

June 26: Panel discussion organized by AVS of Online Education: How Parents can partner with the School.

July 1: Fire Safety Drill organized for staff in School.

July 3: "Ace of Stress" - A Webinar on Stress Management by AVS.

July 17: Panel discussion - "O Captain! My Captain! - The significance of Student Leadership with Students and Parents from across the North-East. Live interaction with young, enthusiastic and passionate Student Leaders.

July 24: Panel discussion on Physical reopening of Schools by AVS - How safe are the Boarding Schools?

Space Project

A total of 12 students under the guidance of Mrs. Priyanka Joshi, Mr. A. S. Huidrom, Mr. Umesh Singh and Mr. Taufique Alam Ansari are doing a project based on "Space Settlement in Venus". Presently Class 12 students are doing an online course related to this topic and work on the project will begin soon. The competition is conducted by INSSDC2021.

ISRO Workshop

A Remote Sensing workshop conducted by Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (a wing of ISRO) was organised for students of classes 10 to 12 registered individually for the course on Telegram.

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