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ANOUSHKA S. RABHA

EDITOR IN CHIEF

"Hope
Smiles from the threshold of the year to come,
Whispering 'it will be happier'..." - Alfred Lord Tennyson

For the first time in the glorious twenty-five years of the Assam Valley School, a majority of the academic year has been spent at home, rather than the comforts of the majestic campus, cocooned in the midst of the lush tea gardens. Unlike the previous decades, this year the campus was bereft of its beloved occupants. There was no Summer Fest to welcome the new and no Founders' month to reminisce about the old. We were not there to witness the subtle change in the colours, from the young green of summer to the wilting red of spring. Though, true to the Aviator spirit, each one of us held on to the belief that, "This too shall pass."

This has been our year of perseverance, even as the few weeks of Bihu break turned into a months-long lockdown, the School continued to engage students in virtual events and activities. From our first virtual Model United Nations Inter-House event to hosting schools from around the globe in the International Round Square Conference, and the various student-led webinars with alumni as keynote speakers, the School community as a whole came together to make the best of the circumstances from the confines of our respective homes. For that and more, we must acknowledge the sheer tenacity that Aviators displayed as they made their way through the odds.

As an institution and as a community, AVS soared through new heights as we were the only boarding school in the country to open with such a large number of returnees, 213 students of 12th and 10th standard returned to the campus by the 17th of December, 2020. This has been the year of multiple firsts for us, we had the first physical classes of the academic year on the last day of the year. The Assam Valley School celebrated the blessed season and welcomed the New Year together as a community with strict health and safety protocols in place.

The Leavers' section is the highlight of the Yearbook this year, as it should be for every other year, resplendent with remarks from their mentors and juniors. We have also included illustrations this year to ensure that it captures the entirety of the Leavers' time in the Assam Valley School, inclusive of their unique personal traits. The twenty-fifth batch will be remembered by the anecdotes shared and their very own *Aviators*. We are hoping that every single of you will be compelled to take a trip down the memory lane as you flip through the pages of this yearbook. We hope that you will be thinking of the first time that you entered the colossal gates of the School, the first time you saw your House, and the last time you walked through the corridors of the main school building. Above all, we hope that you will remember that this is for *you*.



DR. VIDHUKESH VIMAL

HEADMASTER

History documents the human desire to be remembered. This need arises not so much for personal glory but from the yearning to enshrine human relationships and bonds. The Yearbook is the most important publication of an institution not merely because it encapsulates the year that has gone by but also enshrines within its pages the lives that were lived and the times they were lived in.

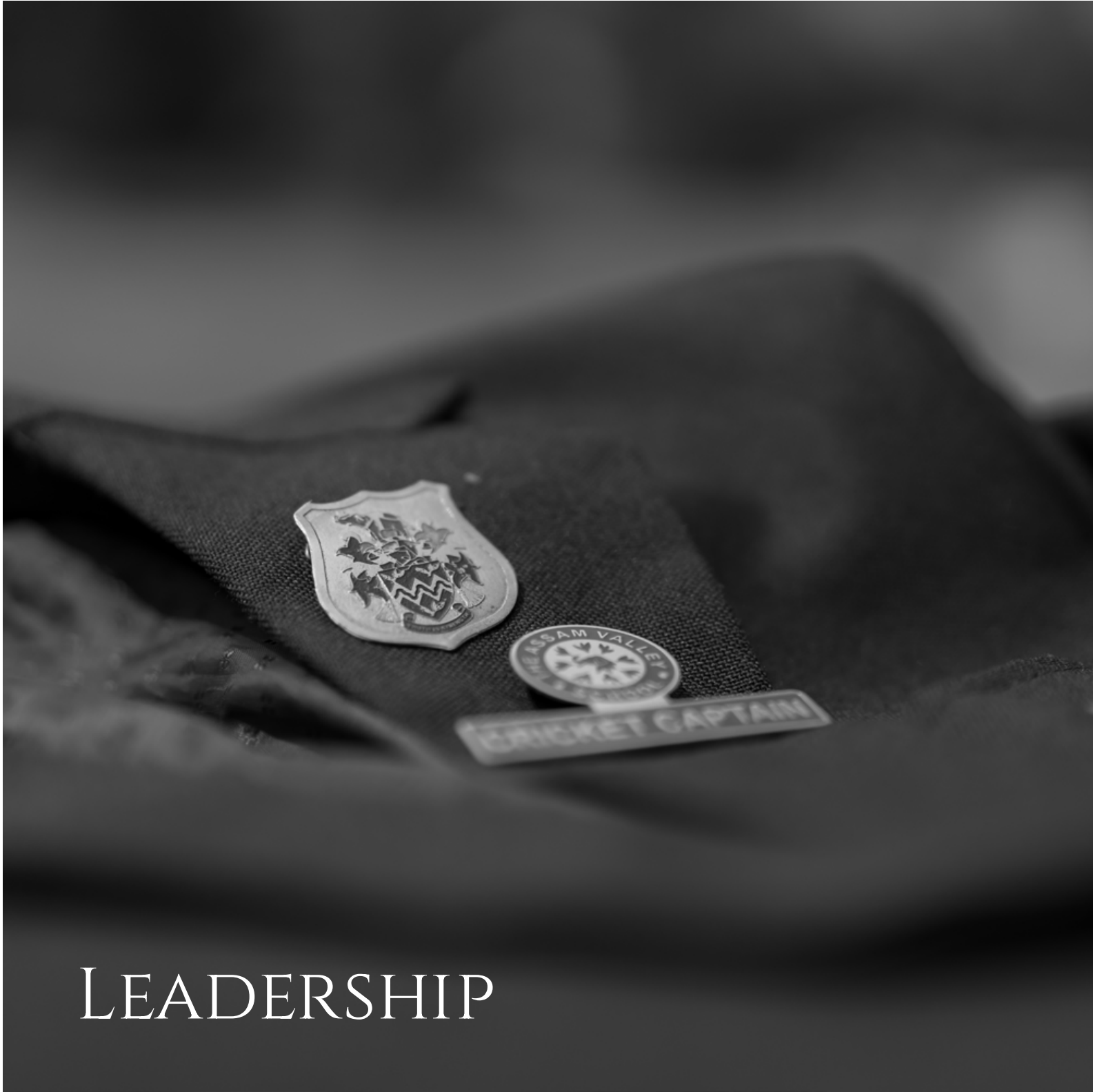
The Silver Jubilee year of The Assam Valley School was meant to be a special year in every sense of the term. The two and a half-decade of the School's establishment had been etched through the efforts, vision, and dedication of numerous people who had crossed through those magnificent gates. In its infancy, it had been the sheer willpower and grit of the Founding Members who had borne out of a rolling wilderness this grand structure of the School building. There was much to be celebrated, many to be remembered more still whose efforts and wisdom had to be venerated. What none could foretell was that the 25th year of the School was destined to be more than just special, it was destined to be historic.

In its preview, a Yearbook covers a single year and bounds within itself the achievements of every single individual across the School calendar. The Yearbook this year however has encompassed what can safely be said many lifetimes lived through multiple trajectories. We expect history to be made of earthshattering episodes clearly marked and distinctly visible. The year of the pandemic saw every individual part of this sprawling campus create a little history each day with their tenacity, their remarkable zeal to persevere no matter the odds, and a community of students and teachers who came together as a single unit to pursue excellence. The 25th Yearbook of The Assam Valley School is more than just a collection of words and photographs bound together for posterity. It is the striking testimony of a School that stood resilient in the face of great odds, persevering through them with an entrenched sense of integrity.

2020 was the year that epitomized the adage that the best-laid plans do indeed go awry. Plans were made, reviewed, redesigned, retracted, and redrawn. It can safely be said that editions of these plans began from A and rested in H. It was a year that marked remarkable commitment to not only all areas of school life but also to upholding traditions that have been enshrined in the very fabric of an Aviator's life. Founders' this year found Teachers grace the stage with outstanding performances. Various Publications from varied streams were published providing a homogenous platform for discourse and discussion. While Teacher and student had made the overnight transition from the physical to the digital seamlessly, the re-opening of the campus became a mammoth project that necessitated not merely precision but strict diligence. The Herculean task spearheaded by the resident Medical Team saw the largest and most successful re-opening of campus in the country. This very feat and the months that ensued of mandating a campus that ran on full strength will remain enshrined in the annals of The Assam Valley School as one that stood triumphant and true to the vision of AVS.

The year that went by left in its wake efforts and thoughts that demand introspection. It brought with it a tremendous crisis within which lay a world of opportunities visible to the discerning eye. The School made this year a fest of collaboration and co-operation making most of all that there was to be done. At the end of the day, in retrospect, one sees a year made remarkable not merely by determination but also by faith. As the School bows its head in prayer and the hymn rings out vibrating the air and shimmering against the blue of the sky, *'In this School your blessing Lord, in this School your blessing stay, in this School, your loving Lord, may it come and lead the way.'*





LEADERSHIP

PARAM NONGMAITHEM SCHOOL CAPTAIN

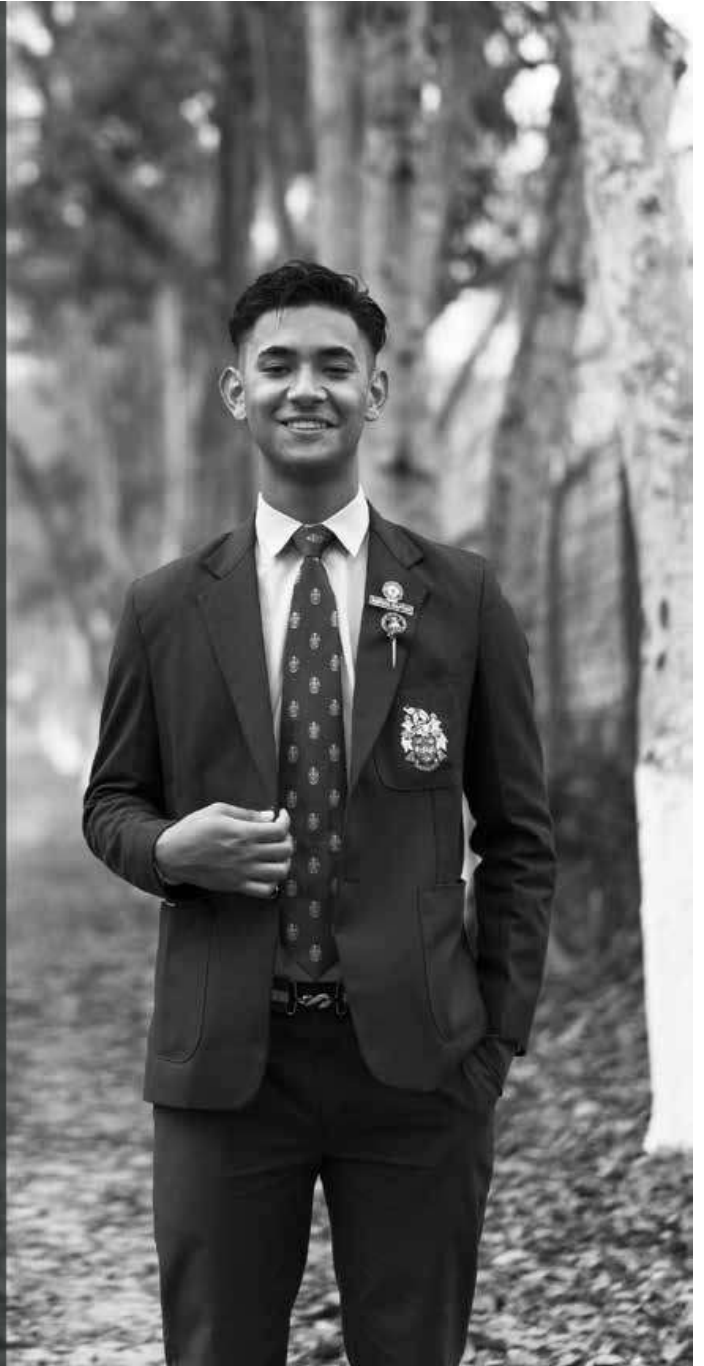
Words would never do justice to the sense of pride, buoyancy and nostalgia that I feel while writing this. It is indeed an absolute honour for me to be able to feature in the glorious and the transcendently impressive Yearbook of The Assam Valley School as the School Captain. As I carry on with this difficult yet venerable task of encapsulating my experiences of the past eight years of my life and particularly the year gone by in this genteel and respectable institution, all I have in my heart is a huge consignment of appreciation filled with deep-rooted civility for everything that the School has done for me.

I entered the majestic gates of AVS for the first time as an eleven year old boy, completely out of this world with not a thing in my head and heart. As days passed making it months, months passed making it years, and years passed making it memories, I am still not sure what's in my head. However, at this moment of time when I can comprehend that this is my final year in school, I know for sure what's in my heart. It is that sensitive desire of being that eleven year old, completely out of this world with not a thing in his head and heart all over again, just to relive everything.

My journey here, to put it most pertinently, has been a bittersweet experience like many others. Happiness, joy, fear, disappointments and sorrows were all a part of it, made a good deal of slip-ups too but as they say, it was all meant to be. The final year of my school life was a life changing experience and adventure, if I may say. I found myself entrusted with the responsibility of leading the school as the School Captain. I cannot express enough gratitude for trusting me with such an esteemed and honoured position at my disposal for the allegedly most important year of the institution till date, the Silver Jubilee year. Although things didn't turn out as expected, as a school we most certainly did live up to the surmise of the milestone in the most astounding way.

The 25th Year of The Assam Valley School was all together an unique episode, not because of the complexities caused by the pandemic but more because of the way the school managed to adapt and overcome so well, the intricacies with sublime gracefulness. The entire community of the school, unblemished whatsoever, in the darkest hours came together as one and with paramount diligence and tenacity to lead us to a disposition where we not only tasted the significance of the Silver Jubilee but also proliferated its essence in its entirety. We learned to be united as a family.

As one looks back at the year gone by, the words of the late American poet Mattie Stepanek reverberates in our ears, "Unity is Strength and when there is team work and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved". Perhaps, this was the greatest lesson the school taught to all its members and undoubtedly a fitting tribute for the school's 25 years of existence. As I write the last few words, throughout the time searching for a perfect ending to my journey, I realized, my journey with AVS is forever; *forever and always*.



INDRANI NANDY

HEAD GIRL

My tenure as the head girl of The Assam Valley School has been the most extraordinary one, and I say that unabashedly. I say extraordinary not because it has been the most fertile or energetic. Extraordinary, because for the first time in twenty-five years school leadership has had no precedents and no guidelines. This school year has been a challenge, a change, but most importantly innovative. "The secret of change is to focus all your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new" - Socrates.

Never could I imagine inter-house competitions or Girl's Department meetings online, but all of you reading this made it happen. The Assam Valley school believes in its students and come what may, never gives up. When I first joined this institution, I was extremely muddled and perhaps lost. I remember my first night in the Bhoroli common room, I was asked to introduce myself. I said, 'I am very excited to be here' and the feelings of those words have always remained the same.

Just like most of you my journey at AVS has not been all sunshine and rainbows. I have made plenty mistakes, there have been times I have barked up the wrong tree and times I lost faith in my abilities. But like I said The Assam Valley School believes in its students and come what may, never gives up. Every semester is a new opportunity and a new avenue. May it be the rush of inter-houses in the summer semester, every aviator's most awaited time of the year- founders', or the effortless winters. There is always something different to offer and learn.

I owe everything that I am today to this school and so in my final year when I was given the opportunity to be a student leader, it was my time to give back. I had the honour to lead a beautiful department of strong, inspiring, sensible, and compassionate girls. I am so grateful to the position I was given, and the opportunity to share what I love with the people that I love every single day for the past four years. Looking back these years have been the best years of my life. As now it is time for me to leave and pass on the baton, I take with me lessons for life and a bag full of memories I will always cherish.

Truth is Strength!



SHASHANK AGARWAL

HEAD BOY

People say it's some moments in your life that define you. Right now, I would say it was my mother's decision 5 years ago to send me to AVS that defines me. With time I realized that the Assam Valley School is the place which now I yearn to go back to, the place which now seems so much more than just a school and the place that discovered *me for myself*.

If one asked me, the lost, sick and tiny boy that I was when I joined the school, "Can you picture yourself as Head Boy after some years from now?", I would have definitely passed the question thinking that the person was trying to pull my leg. Therefore, it was because of this inexplicable and incredulous turn in my life that I started believing how each one of us should believe in ourselves, I started believing that how one can be who they thought are never going to be and I started believing in the idea that, 'Nothing Lasts Forever'.

It becomes exceedingly difficult for me to contemplate on how much I owe to the school. Be it the capacious lush green environment that always cheered me on, my teachers who have always pushed me on the right track, seniors that have nudged me to make the most out of myself or my friends for whom I don't have words to describe my gratitude and their greatness.

There are a plethora of things that I have learnt, gained and understood throughout my journey, so much so that it isn't possible to fit in most of them here. However, I am really thankful for having gotten this opportunity to serve the school as its Head Boy. It's truly been a pleasure. This piece of metallic badge teaches you a lot, about life, leadership and gives perspectives to behold disparate situations and people. All I know is, even the few months that I spent at school as Head Boy has invigorated me with strength of mind and character and I can't articulate how much it means to me.

All the I know now is, I walked in as a boy who wanted to quit school but I will walk out as a man who wants to stay a little longer, I walked in a boy who missed home but I will walk out as a man who will miss school and I walked in as a boy who was yet to explore himself but now I will walk out as a man who has somewhat done the deed.



ACTIVITY - TEACHERS IN CHARGE



Sitting (L-R): Dr. Pooja J. Benjamin, Mr. Leslie P. Watts, Mr. Debnath Pyne, Mrs. Tamanna Seth, Mrs. Dayita B. Datta, Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Dr. Hemashree Deka, Ms. Rubi B. Bordoloi, Ms. Sarmistha P. Sarkar, Dr. Rajesh Kr. Mishra, Mr. Rajender Chauhan, Mrs. Priyanka Joshi

2nd Row (L-R): Mr. Arvind Benjamin, Mrs. Rimjhim G. Pyne, Mrs. Lipika Bora, Mr. Harinarayan Baruah, Ms. Kamalica Bhowmick, Mrs. Torali Baruah, Mrs. Mampi Das, Mrs. Rupali Borah, Mr. Pranjal Baruah, Mr. Tapan Barui, Dr. Parinita Goswami, Dr. Alpana Dey, Mr. Lovesh Sharma

3rd Row (L-R): Mr. Sanjay Kr. Dixit, Mr. Siddharth Bathla, Mr. Thajeb A. Hazarika, Mr. Bijit Kr. Das, Mr. Tapash Das, Mr. Manoj Hazarika, Mr. Samuel D. David, Mr. Devesh Kr. Prajapati

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



Sitting (L-R): Gayatri Sapru, Letminlun Haokip, Ipsita D. Kashyap, Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Dr. Hemashree Deka, Humraj S. Jassal, Shrabona Borthakur, Nilay Dhakal

2nd Row (L-R): Aryan Khatuwala, Jeremy Jahau, Vedansh Jindal, Anoushka S. Rabha, Urvee Samir, Indrani Nandy, Suhani Singhania, Anisha Baruah, Thejazer Linyu, Vansh Sharma, Hrishi Raj Sureka

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Sitting (L-R): Dr. Rajesh Kr. Mishra, Mr. B. Moses Herick, Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj, Mrs. Sahana Majumdar, Mrs. Shakila Banu, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Mr. Tanmay Ghosh, Mr. Apu Dey, Dr. Kuljeet Singh, Mr. Amritz S. Huidrom, Mrs. Meenakshi B. Das

2nd Row (L-R): Param Nongmaithem, Thejazer Linyu, Arindom Pator, Ashmita Phukan, Anuja Barooah, Indrani Nandy, Sneha Sonowal, Zeenat T. Ullah, Dhajen Basumatary, Shashank Agarwal, Nandan Agarwal

3rd Row (L-R): Mr. Samuel D. David, Mr. Prem Kr. Singh, Mrs. Debajani S. Bora, Mrs. Neeta Hazarika, Ms. Kabita B. Devi, Mr. Arvind Benjamin, Ms. Mousumi Talukdar, Ms. Pamela J. Syiemlieh, Ms. Prerna C. Gurkin, Mrs. Daisy R. Baruah, Mrs. Priyankoo K. Das, Mrs. Shalu Sharma, Mrs. Nancy K. Baruah, Mr. Siddharth Bathla



EVENT MANAGEMENT TEAM



1st Row (L-R): Piyush Das, Nunu Liyak, Tanvi Agarwal , Hiya Das, Kavisha Poddar, Mr. Leslie P. Watts, Satvik Keshan, Akshat Dhelia, Nabam Yajo, Vidisha Pradhan, Samar Mazumdar

GAMES COMMITTEE

Sitting (L-R): Hrishi Raj Sureka, Kanishk Nowal, Astha Saikia, Tsering Wangchuk, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Mr. Sanjay Pathak, Havika Ome Apang, Naman Agarwal, Nitya Saraf

2nd Row (L-R): Tatiana N. Lakiang, Tisha Maheshwari, Anushka Bora, Somaina Boro, Magdolina R.S. Lepcha, Anushcka Joshi, Samiksha Modi

3rd Row (L-R): Divyanshu Agarwal, Hongyang Konyak, Tallum Toko, Rishi Keshan, Lokesh Agarwal, Thejazer Linyu, Rachit Agarwal



SCHOOL COUNCIL



Sitting (L-R): Mrs. Meenakshi B. Das, Mr. Amritz S. Huidrom, Mrs. Sahana Majumdar, Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj, Mrs. Shakila Banu, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Aryan Khatuwala, Mr. Apu Dey, Dr. Kuljeet Singh, Mr. Leslie P. Watts, Ms. Kamalica Bhowmick

2nd Row (L-R): Mr. Thajeb A. Hazarika, Mr. Amalmani Sarma, Mrs. Debajani S. Bora, Ms. Mousumi Talukdar, Dr. Dimple Baruah, Mr. B. Moses Herick, Mr. Siddharth Bathla

3rd Row (L-R): Mehul Agarwalla, Norzin L. Bhutia, Ananya Singh, Rikor Symbalai, Tasmin Y. Ahmed, Indrani Nandy, Donensangla Chang, Shrabona Borthakur, Anushka Rai, Arnav Dutta

4th Row (L-R): Param Nongmaithem, Shashank Agarwal, Hrishi Raj Sureka, Manas Keleng, Karma T.T. Chamling

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Sitting (L-R): Mr. Jalam Singh, Mr. Rajender Chauhan, Mr. Apu Dey, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Mr. Sanjay Pathak, Mrs. Sarika B. Hazarika, Mr. Devendra Verma

2nd Row (L-R): Mr. Biswajit Baglary, Ms. Kabita B. Devi, Mr. Minto Borah, Ms. Ishita Malhotra, Mrs. Torali Baruah, Mr. Ridip Mahanta, Mr. Monjit Roy

3rd Row (L-R): Mr. Mukund M.C. Shukla, Mr. Samuel Daniel David, Mr. Jayanto Kalita, Mr. Rajiv Doimary, Mr. Devesh Prajapati



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



1st Row (L-R): Mr. Tanmay Ghosh, Mr. Apu Dey, Mrs. Shakila Banu, Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, Mrs. Sahana Majumdar, Dr. Kuljeet Singh, Mr. Tushar Bharadwaj

FOUNDERS'





EXHIBITIONS

Art

The Department of Art displayed the rich culture and divine beauty of our native land, India, with their exquisite theme, "The Golden Bird".



Assamese Department

The exhibition, titled "Kingkhap" showcased the traditional and contemporary designs of Assamese outfits and ornaments, which truly exhibited the rich and vibrant culture of Assam.



Biology

The Biology Department told their audience "The Story of Man" by showcasing the evolution of the human body and the DNA structures. The Department of Biotechnology also displayed how Genetically Modified Organisms are designed!



Craft Design & Technology

With their theme of "Chandava 24", the CDT Department showcased a canopy of myriad colours, patterns, and techniques from India and abroad. The highlights of the exhibition were the Shibori, Decoupage, Macrame, Bamboo Craft, Aircraft modeling, Thread Art, and Gown Designing, which were a sure feast for the eyes.



Chemistry

The Chemistry Department, under the theme of "Magical Chemistry", displayed the wonders of science in experiments like "Magic Fire" and "Invisible Ink". They also demonstrated the working of fire extinguishers, lava lamps, and the Elephant's Toothpaste.



Commerce

The Department of Commerce, with its theme as Bank of AVS, unraveled a Relationship beyond Banking and described the various steps of account opening, investments, safety, and security of the account, and also entertained the audience with exciting games and quizzes.



Crafter's Keep

In the course of this exhibition, optimum level of voluntary participation has been encouraged and observed from the lower school children, who were involved in the creation and display of the craft on showcase.



Edutrex

The exhibition displayed a collected account of all the excursions that were undertaken in April, 2019.



Experiential Learning

In this exhibition, the students of Classes 6, 7 and 8 showcased the outcomes of their learning from their historic visit to Tezpur, their research on healthy food, and their experience of making Gulal or colour for Holi.



Geography

Under the theme of Save the Earth, Save yourself, the Geography Department threw light on the various types of pollution, their causes, and the steps we can take to reduce them.



History

The History Department with its theme for the year : Abrogation of Article 370 in Kashmir, beautifully exhibited how Kashmir, a serene paradise, has turned into an unstable dystopian land.



ICT

Techsmith 2019 aimed to showcase the vast world of ICT by presenting websites designed Adobe Muse and HTML 5, 3D games, a VR Game, and an original app made with Android Studio.



Mathematics

The Mathematics Department combined Astronomy and Mathematics in their exhibition, Astromatica, where they presented the application of trigonometry in astronomy, the contribution of mathematicians in this field, the Chandrayaan-II expedition and also a working model of a rocket.



Photography

The captivating works of the AVS Photographic Society, Sparsh-11, displayed a collection of their publication, 'Eye Of The Camera' - Volume 1-11.



Physics

The Physics Exhibition was divided into two sections- The Robotics Section, where different types of robots like football playing robot and Bluetooth controlled robot were presented, and The Eureka Section, which exhibited instruments like the Bubble Machine and the Wireless tester.



Round Square

The exhibition showcased the Round Square conferences that the students had participated in across the year with emphasis on the International Conference and the Summer Camp held in Beijing.



Sociology

The Sociology Exhibition highlighted the growing influence of the Eastern countries and explored the various cultures, traditions, food, and attractions of countries like China, Korea, and Japan.



Sports

The Department of Sports presented an exhibition on the achievements and progress of the different sporting teams of AVS and also fascinated the audience with a marvelous picture gallery and a lovely photograph booth!



Social Service League

The SSL Exhibition was a colourful and mesmerising one, where they showcased the numerous projects undertaken by the league, like pavement construction, health camp, and their trip to the Moran Blind School.



Sunnyside

AVS Sunnyside presented an exhibition on the theme: Cherish Every Season, where the little ones enthralled the audience with the creative display, animated role-play, paintings, and drawings of the four seasons.



A photograph of a stage production. At the top, a row of nine spotlights is visible against a dark background. The word "PRODUCTIONS" is centered in a white, serif font. Below the text, a group of dancers in traditional Indian attire, including sarees and jewelry, are seated on the stage. The scene is lit with a mix of purple and red light.

PRODUCTIONS