

MADE IN INDIA

-Hiyaneijemmy Das, Deputy Editor

We might just have an Indian-origin Prime Minister in the United Kingdom. That was what more than a billion people, Indians and the Indian diaspora alike, must have thought of when Boris Johnson left office in the fiasco that was Partygate. Just this week on Monday, Johnson’s replacement was declared: Liz Truss, now the third female Prime Minister from the Conservative Party to lead the country. Rishi Sunak went from being swooned over and nicknamed “Disly Rishi” to shunned away for his completely unrelatable lifestyle, questionable finances, and tactless politics. As his popularity dipped however, one thing remained unwavering: the support of an increasingly proud and convinced Indian community.

Sunak’s campaign was marked by headlines that appeared as though the journalists were itching to mention his heritage at every given moment. Of course, because that had everything to do with his politics and policies, one would assume. Headlines threw around words like “Indian”, “Desi”, “Hindu” like a free-for-all; and people loved it. He took his oath as Chancellor of the Exchequer on a Bhagavad Gita instead of the Bible. He performed gau puja ahead of the PM elections. Sunak has been milking his heritage and the world has been drinking all of it up.

However, what we fail to see is that Indians often give anyone with a remote link to India far too much credit. Sundar Pichai, Kamala Harris, Satya Nadella, and now Rishi Sunak. Perhaps it feels good to see the enterprising, clever spirit of India’s defining middle-class that we would like to say we embody, out there conquering the world. Perhaps with Sunak’s case, the inexplicable and unfortunately inconsequential feeling of redemption that would come with an “Indian” man ruling over the state that once ruled us is far too satisfying for us not to support him. But in these attractive speculations hides facts that every Indian seems to happily turn a blind eye to.

Sunak has been in the world of finance all his life. The world of big money, flashy suits, impressive homes, and wealth beyond the likes that most Indians would ever be comfortable with. In April, it was revealed that his wife had managed to save up millions in tax



Illustration: Anushka Adhikari & Migam Angu, XII

savings by claiming non-domicile status and retaining her Indian citizenship. It was uncovered that Sunak was most likely attending the very lockdown parties that initiated him jumping ship. Finally, his debates with his opponent Truss have revealed a side of subtle cockiness, irksome detachment from the working class, and an attitude that has done nothing but alienate him. These are but a few of the grievances against him, adding to the pile of miseries he caused as the Exchequer in the midst of a pandemic and recession.

Sunak is also a third-generation immigrant from Southampton. He has stated that he is British through and through, but Indian and Hindu in culture and heritage. Make what you will of those words. Indians

were clambering over a potential groundbreaker but did we notice how little his heritage has mattered in the race? Would a similar situation in India, a Muslim candidate for the top post, garner this much support? Would such a situation even arise so benignly as it has in the UK? The UK has probed more questions into his finances, personal decisions, and policies than his heritage, as a democracy should. You would be hard pressed to find the same in the world's largest democracy. Now that the results have been announced and the race done and dusted, Indians are moving on from the gala of that outrageous and ecstatic fever, happily refusing to take a look at all the problems, questions, and discussions that were brought up by the event and need to be addressed. So, is ignorance really bliss?

THE QUEEN OF HEARTS

-Donovan Figg, XII

The lady who gave a whole new meaning to the connotation, “The Rock of Ages”, her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, is no more. The second-longest reigning monarch in human history, and the longest-reigning monarch in England has passed away at Balmoral castle, her summer residence in Scotland.

It is no state secret that Balmoral place was her majesty's favourite residence - out of a grand total of six estates that the British head of state resides in throughout the year. Situated in Aberdeen, the estate, with its manicured lawns and verdant forests has been the monarch's favourite house since she first addressed the public from there at age fourteen, during the war that defined her stoicism.

Amid concerns about her health, ex-prince Harry had travelled to Scotland solo, leaving Mrs. Markle back at home in Canada to meet the Queen in her final moments, reports suggest.

A little-known fact about the late monarch is that she has owned every single model of the Land Rover Defender series ever made. Her favourite car ever was reported to be the Land Rover Defender “blacked out” bespoke SUV, which she was often seen driving herself in. Interestingly, Queen Elizabeth II was the only person in the entirety of the United Kingdom who was qualified to drive vehicles without possessing a valid

drivers' licence herself. The queen loved driving and “would try to find every possible excuse to do so”. She is famous for donning an Hermès scarf, an outrageous bonnet of some form or the other, and going “out for a spin”, as she liked to call it.

Although security concerns prevented her from touring the entire countryside in her trusty '15 Defender, she would have loved to, for she loved seeing new places. Queen Elizabeth II holds the world record for being the most-travelled monarch in history, having visited over 120 countries, with Canada being the one she frequented the most, outside of the United Kingdom.

She was a true stalwart, having navigated (and ultimately, saved) the monarchy through innumerable crises, scandals, trials, and tribulations. Because of the nature of the UK's financial situation after world war two, Queen Elizabeth had actually purchased her bridal gown (for her betrothal in 1947) with post-war ration coupons. These were given to each British citizen “to ensure fair access to food and supplies”. Ladies and girls from across the country mailed their coupons to her majesty so that she could get the dress of her dreams, but sharing the coupons was illegal, so all mailed coupons were dutifully returned.

While no mortal would dare to address the Queen outside of her royal designations, to those dearest to

her, she was affectionately known as “Cabbage”. It is speculated that the nickname originates from the French saying “Mon Petit Chou”, which loosely translates to “My Little Cabbage”. However, it remains an enigma as to why His Highness Prince Philip gave the Queen this nutritious-sounding nickname in the first place.

She will forever be remembered as the global focal point of the English monarchy, someone who steered the country and monarchy through crises in the way that only a woman could and millions, if not billions, will mourn her passing. It is heart-shattering that only recently did the entire nation celebrate her Platinum Jubilee in June this year.

The queen is succeeded by the King and Queen Consort, King Charles III, though he may not be coronated for months to come, nor is it clear whether or not he will call himself the King.

The only sure thing at this time is that the world has lost a great leader, the royal family has lost its matriarch, and the United Kingdom has lost their favourite leader.



Illustration: Migam Angu, XII

MUSINGS

-Nivaan Lal Baruah, VIII

This period of time at AVS has been quite a long journey with ups and downs. This was my second time here yet I kept feeling homesick for two straight weeks. I don't make friends all that easily and truth be said, I am not very good at it either. I was alone for a few days early on at school. Gradually as I began getting a bearing of the world around me I slowly made acquaintances who quickly became friends. Finally, I began enjoying myself here. This journey so far has taught me that living far from our homes and parents make our heart grow fonder. Although I miss them, I am learning to make this place my very own space and make the most of the days as they dawn. I stutter. To put it plainly it became the cause of much amusement to those around me. It however never stopped me from making conversations. Now, however, the royalty of it all has worn off and this habit of mine has become normal to everyone who knows me. We have settled in the routine of trying to get to know each other better despite it

all. I figure that we should not dwell too much on our weaknesses. We should focus on our strengths instead. It may be a daunting prospect at the best of times, but I realise it rests more in the way I think. And I think it is a wonderful world out there and I have a blockbuster role to play and I intend to start right here and now. AVS is becoming more and more of a home, and I am happy where I am today, a Lohit boy and an Aviator. of trying to get to know each other better despite it all. I figure that we should not dwell too much on our weaknesses. We should focus on our strengths instead. It may be a daunting prospect at the best of times, but I realise it rests more in the way I think. And I think it is a wonderful world out there and I have a blockbuster role to play and I intend to start right here and now. AVS is becoming more and more of a home, and I am happy where I am today, a Lohit boy and an Aviator.

Campus Caricature

-Siddhi Gupta, X



THE OUTPOST

Liz Truss had barely been anointed the third woman PM of England ousting Boris Johnson when England lost its popular and longest serving monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. It came what seemed like a bolt from the blue and finally, the long waiting heir in line takes on the mantle as King Charles III. Mamata Banerjee's reputation as an uncorrupted leader takes a tremendous beating as her close aides and associates are caught with loot. Unbothered with a tottering INC, Rahul Gandhi sets out on Bharat Jodo Yatra while dissenters within the party pray for a Congress Bachao Abhiyan.



Illustration: Limelka Ayemi, XII

INTRA- SCHOOL MUN

ST. JOSEPH CLUNY'S MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Anushka Jitani of class 10 participated as an Individual Delegate in SJCMUN, one of the largest MUN conferences held in Siliguri and won High Commendation representing France.



DALY COLLEGE MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The Assam Valley School delegation participated in the Daly College chapter of MUN based on the theme Yuemanzekui. The agenda was "Dissolution of the People's Republic of China". After a hiatus it was the first MUN that the school delegation attended physically.



MAYO COLLEGE GIRLS' SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

A group of 9 students from The Assam Valley School attended the prestigious Mayo College Girls' School MUN conference held from the 26 th to the 30 th of July, 2022 which had over 175 participants.



BHAVAN VIDYALAYA CHANDIGARH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

A group of 18 students from The Assam Valley School went to the prestigious BVC MUN Conference in the month of August 2022. Aayush Agarwal and Raghav Agarwal of class 12 bagged the High Commendation awards in their own respective committees - Federal Open Market Committee and The Joint Parliamentary Law Review Committee.



WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

A group of 10 students represented The Assam Valley School at the WELMUN 22. This prestigious event took place at The Welham Boys School from the 4 th to the 6 th of August, 2022.

Priyanu Kashyap received a verbal commendation in her maiden entry in the International Press category. Her poem was also selected amongst the three printed in the press release of Welmun 22.



HARVARD MODEL UNITED NATIONS

A delegation of 17 students represented The Assam Valley School at the Harvard Model United Nations held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre in Hyderabad from the 12 th of August to the 17 th of August 2022.

Anushka Jitani of grade 10 was awarded the “Diplomatic Commendation” award for her exceptional involvement in the committee proceedings.



ALL INDIA IPSC BOYS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Nabajyoti Hazarika of Class 9 has won the Bronze Medal in the 35th All India IPSC Boys Swimming Championship 2022 held from 5 th to 7 th July, 2022 under the categories U-14, U-17 & U-19. This competition was conducted by Genesis Global School (GGS), Noida.



IPSC VISUAL ART FEST

The achievements of the AVS contingent at the IPSC Visual Art Fest 2022 hosted by Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls’ Public School, Jodhpur (Rajasthan) from 18 th to 20 th July, 2022:

1. Harshi Kashyap: Honourable Mention in Still Life
2. Akum Raksam Marak: Future Generation Award in Portrait Drawing
3. Akum Raksam Marak: Creative Art Award in Outdoor Landscape
4. Gengam Dulom & Tadar Yajum: Promising Young Artists in POP Relief Work
5. Harshit Sharma: Jury’s Choice Award in String

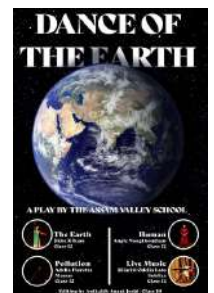


IPSC VISUAL DRAMA

The Dramatic delegation of The Assam Valley School won the Most Outstanding Script in the English Play-Quintet at the IPSC Drama Festival held online by Birla Vidya Mandir on 16th & 17th of August, 2022.

Team members:

1. Adella Massar
2. Jikke Kikum
3. Angie Nongthambam
4. Riiriti Lato
5. Anikaith Joshi



ASSAM YOUTH OLYMPICS

Yash D. Chauhan (Batch of 2022) won the Gold Medal in Assam Youth Olympics Games in Guwahati in U-19 Squash category.

Bhabarnab P. N. Sandilya, of Class 10 won the Silver Medal in Assam Youth Olympics Games held at Guwahati in Taekwondo (Kyorugi) Junior Boys Weight Category.



SIKKIM STATE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Kelden Rigsang of class VIII has won the Bronze Medal in Sub-Junior Swimming Freestyle Category in the 16th Sikkim State Championship.



THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE EDUGRAPH SKILLFEST

We are delighted to share that Hiyaneijemmy Das of Class 12 has been chosen the winner in the Content Creation Category of The Telegraph Edugraph Skillfest 2022 and has won a Lenovo Tab.



Hiyaneijemmy Das has also been awarded the Most Promising Speaker at Inter-School MAH (Mofizuddin Ahmed Hazarika) 2022, hosted

by Maria's Public School, Guwahati.

ALL ASSAM MAFIJUDDIN AHMED HAZARIKA ASSAMESE CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Madhurjya Madhab of class 9 has been awarded 3rd prize in All Assam Mafijuddin Ahmed Hazarika Assamese Creative Writing Competition.



ASSAM COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

We are pleased to share that Adrija Das of ISC Batch of 2022 has cleared the Assam CEE for Engineering. Many congratulations to her and her family.



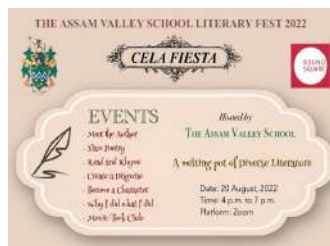
INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL CONCLAVE

- 1 st position : Myskina Deka (Solo Sattriya)
- 2 nd position : Jupitora Das (Solo Sattriya)
- 1 st position : Langlensana Rajkumari (Solo Manipuri)
- 1 st position : Trismita Borah (Solo Folk Bihu)
- 3 rd position : Ishita Rehman (Solo Semi Classical)
- 1 st position : Tanisha Surana and Prateeti Ghosh (Duet Semi Classical)
- 1 st position : Baibhav Sharma and Sampada Malpani (Duet Modern)



VIRTUAL RS CONFERENCE

Cela fiesta - a melting pot of diverse Literature, a Literary attempt for Round Square Schools, was hosted by The Assam Valley School on 20th August, 2021. The Author in Conversation with AVS was the renowned writer and educator Mr. Vikramjit Singh Rooprai. The 190+ participants from 20 different schools left the platform enriched, informed and excited.



ART COMPETITION

Priyadarshini Gogoi, Class 12 received the Honourable Mention Award for her artwork on the theme 'Innovate, Illuminate, Inspire'. The Assam Valley School, India was the 3rd Runner Up School among 42 schools that participated in the event.



Ripple #190

-Emidaka Rapsang, XI

*Soft glow of whiskey in stained
glass, The ice twirling in its
dance. Gentle murmurs and
quiet music played, To which he
hummed and swayed.
Cloaked in the smoke of
venomous elegance
Dracula regal in all his
decadence.*

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "Please polish your socks."- Ma'am Daisy
(As long as you don't mind the smell.)
2. "This is a four chapter long page".-
Yashraj Agarwal, XII (Who are you and
who is your paper supplier?)
3. "I will make you buy everyone."-Ma'am
Daisy (I didn't put transitioning in the
grocery list. Or humans.)
4. "Abroad is where?"- Jikke Kikum, XII
(With that grammar, far from your reach.)
5. "Fittest of the survival."- Nokaulong
Angh, XII (But you're fit for nothing.)

Keep It Reel!

Wanders and Wonders

-Yashraj Agarwal, XII



Editor-in-Chief: Kekhriesino Meyase

Deputy Editor: Hiyaneijemmy Das

Correspondents: Ssara, Hana, Emidaka & Deubale

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E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com

Telephone: 09678074320/08812009627 Website: www.assamvalleyschool.com

Patron: Dr. Amit Jugran, The Headmaster of The Assam Valley School



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