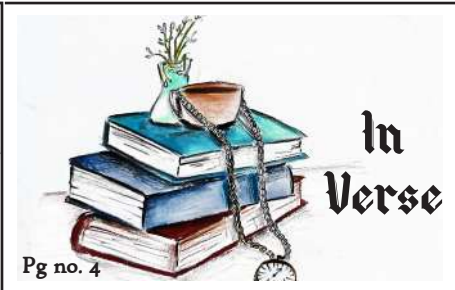


Pg no. 9



Pg no. 4



Pg no. 4

Pride and Prejudice

-Jigme Pao Tamang, XI

June 28th 1969, during a time when homosexuality was illegal, the patrons of the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar in New York City, was raided by the police. The raid was routine for a bar like Stonewall, given the extreme homophobia of that era and the fact that they were an easy target for the police; but this time, instead of meekly submitting to the authorities, the employees and patrons took action. A year later, on June 28, 1970 – the anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, the first pride march was planned with the aim to gather the community to demonstrate against centuries of abuse; official betrayal of their human rights by virtually all segments of society; anti-homosexual laws and discrimination. This was the birth of the gay liberation movement. There have been many ethical concerns regarding transgender

people, after all I personally do believe that people who have not altered their biological bodies and people who have altered their biological bodies should have a thin dividing line between them. After all, a trans man, who has gone through transition has all the physical benefits of the male body: the larger bone structure, slightly bigger hearts, more RBC count and larger reach and increased muscle mass, however all their physiques are much weaker as compared to men and this creates a difference that is extremely difficult to surmount. It's the same for women and trans women as well, all those who have a Y chromosome have an incomparable physical advantage after going through puberty and this make competitions between trans women and men dangerous. However, questions such as “Do trans women

count as women?” are surrounded by toxicity and many people do anything to avoid answering it. Young adults are usually the most affected by questions of gender identity; although I’m not disregarding issues surrounding other genders, the problem posed by the transgender community is one that cannot be overlooked. Unlike other genders, trans people require a gender change surgery and a foreclosure of reproductive possibilities. For adults who are sure of who they are and what they wish for in life, this is a major issue, but it is extremely dangerous to teens who are questioning themselves come to the conclusion that they are trans and hastily undergo a transition, only to relinquish that idea in the future. It is a tragedy that the gender identity debate is now hate filled and polarised: most have

a fixed and rigid view on the gender identity theory. Anger, fear and hatred are often used to hijack reason, avoid dispassionate examination on the grounds of opinion, and remove true freedom to thought and faith. The issue surrounding the LGBTQ+ movement is that those who are deviate from the biologically assigned genders face extreme discrimination form society; their dignity as a human being is ignored and, in some cases,

it is even illegal for them to be themselves. A friend from Nepal once told me that we (me and everyone else) were leaving the country for better job opportunities but she plans on leaving her country when she grows up because she is searching for people who accept and love her for who she is; is this their reality? A harsh and cruel reality that is always against them, a world that, even with laws that accept them, may fall apart at the stroke of a pen?

The Missing Girls



Illustration: Gaurish Saikia, X

-Ahona Chowdhury, X

It was a cold winter night when I was sipping on my hot chocolate with marshmallows, with my so far favourite book 'One Of Us Is Lying' by Karen M. McManus. I was finally enjoying myself and I felt relaxed after so long and probably thought that it would last forever, when suddenly, I felt a shiver; all the hair on my arms and legs stood up in goosebumps. I was not sure if it was the silence around me or the cool breeze outside or the fact that I was reading a mysterious book. It was probably the wind, I thought, and so I went to close the window. My window was rusty and old and it did give me the 'vintage vibes.' The window frame looked like it could break and fall at any second. I was trying to gently close the window when I saw someone standing under the apple tree. I did not really care at first, although I could not help but stare at the person. The longer I looked, the more familiar she felt. She seemed to be of my height with blonde hair which shone in the dark. The girl seemed to stand still with nerve wrecking precision and after a while, I began to feel uncomfortable. I moved away from the window quickly. The lights chose precisely this moment to go off. It was probably the

ancient fuse again or my father having forgotten to pay the bill. Both scenarios were plausible. I took my torch light out of my pocket and flashed it on the window to see if the girl was still there. She was gone. I could not see her. The lights came back on and I breathed a deep sigh of relief. I realised I had been terrified standing in the dark and was so very glad that the lights had turned on. I decided to ignore the unsettled feeling I had and settle down with my book and put the television on just so that I did not feel all that alone. The news screamed out a headline that had me transfixed to the screen. A girl named 'Abbie Myers' had been missing for the past few days and now the police had found something important. The fact that it was my name that screamed out of the static of the screen was not surprising. I had come across weird posters and news of how I had apparently gone 'missing.' What ran my blood cold was what I saw next. It was a decaying body strapped to the stretcher, the wet grass still clinging to the limp blond hair. I read the news again and stared at the unblinking picture above. It read that the body of the missing 'Abbie Myers'- my body, had been found.

Israel-Gaza Violence

-Pratiti Barua, XI

The Israel-Gaza conflict is a long-standing issue that has been ongoing for decades. It is a complex situation that involves political, religious, and territorial disputes between the two sides. The conflict began in 1948 when Israel was created, and since then, there have been numerous wars and conflicts between them. The conflict has resulted in numerous casualties and destruction of properties, leaving many people homeless and displaced. The root of the conflict lies in the dispute over land ownership. Both Israel and Palestine claim ownership of the same land, which has led to violent clashes over the years. The situation has been exacerbated by religious differences and political tensions between Hamas (the ruling party in Gaza) and Fatah (the ruling party in the West Bank) who rule the two halves of Palestine respectively. The international community has attempted to broker peace agreements between Israel and Palestine, but so far, none have been successful. The conflict continues to escalate with both sides engaging in acts of violence against each other. The Israeli government's approach to dealing with the conflict has been criticized by many human rights organizations. The use of excessive force against Palestinian civilians, including women and children, has led to widespread condemnation from the international community. On the other hand, Hamas, which controls Gaza, has also been accused of using violence against Israeli civilians through numerous rocket attacks. This approach only serves to escalate tensions and has prolonged the conflict. It is essential for both parties to engage in peaceful negotiations to resolve this issue once and for all. The international community must play a crucial role in facilitating these negotiations and ensuring that human rights are respected on both sides. In conclusion, it is high time for a peaceful resolution concerning the Israel-Gaza conflict. Both parties must come together in good faith negotiations towards finding a lasting solution that will bring an end to this long-standing crisis.

Blessing or boon for Pakistan?

-Norzin Lahmu, XI

When Imran Khan first joined the PM's office in July 2018, he promised to fight corruption and fix the economy. Ironic coming from the person who was recently arrested on corruption charges. Government officials alleged that Khan and his wife received land worth millions of dollars as a bribe from the real estate tycoon, Malik Riaz Hussain through a charitable trust. Khan's government used the money to pay fines levied by a court against Hussain for the illegal acquisition of government lands at below-market value for development in Karachi. The land Khan received in exchange was nearly 60 acres of land worth seven billion Pakistani rupees (\$24.7 million). This is merely one of the 140 corruption cases piled against Imran Khan. Imran Khan despite no knowledge of economics, made ambitious promises which included reforming the country's tax system and bureaucracy and building an "Islamic Welfare State" where wealth would be shared. Instead, the country now faces double-digit inflation, and is crippled by debt, with the promised help from the World Bank slow to arrive. Imran Khan managed to alienate Pakistan's long-time allies and now Saudi Arabia has refused to provide Pakistan with any further bailouts of interest free loans. Pakistan is a country controlled by its army. Khan, who was once the blue-eyed boy of the army, is facing the wrath of the establishment after his supporters resorted to unprecedented protest against the Pakistani Army. It brooks for dangerous days ahead for Imran Khan. One would think circumstances such as these would benefit India. A troubled Pakistan would mean fewer skirmishes and attacks on our borders. However, the argument suggests otherwise. A total collapse of the Pakistani government would most likely lead to a new spate of homegrown terrorism which is already prevalent around the Iran-Afghanistan border. With Pakistan as its hotbed, India's security challenges would multiply, leading to an even greater Af-Pak problem than the one the world is facing. Not to mention a possibility of a refugee migration latching onto India's borders. If Imran Khan did ever come back to power, it would result in Pakistan being led by a person who had no idea of politics or economics but was devoted to the pursuit of drugs and the occult. It would see the complete collapse of Pakistan and a neighborhood thrown into chaos and hurled back to the stone age.

In Verse

Days in The Past

-Natasha Bilimoria, X

I think I had forgotten that time alters people.
That it is more than just the shape of their face and the
change in their voice,
That takes you aback when you see them again.

It is not until you sit on the terrace of your childhood
home and ache to recreate what once was,
And you realise you aged far more in these past years.
Its not until you look into the eyes of an old friend that
you realise the person you once knew move along with
time.

They say distance brings fondness but all it did for us
was bring polite messages on our birthdays,
Telling stories we have already told.
We are two petals on the same flower,
roots intact, but unnaturally turned away from each
other.
I wish I knew you the way I once did.
I wish I knew who you are now.



Illustration: Ssara Jha, XII

Campus Caricature

SOUND OF MUSIC

Illustration: Ssara Jha, XII



INTERHOUSE SQUASH COMPETITION

Results at a glance:

1st Position: Subansiri- Namdang

2nd Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

3rd Position: Jinari-Manas

4th Position: Kopili-Dhansiri



IPSC SQUASH TOURNAMENT

Host School: YPS, Patiala- 1st to 5th of June

U-14 Boys (Team Event Matches):

YPS Patiala Vs AVS: AVS won by 2-0

Under 17 Boys (Team Event Matches):

AVS team won against Modern School

Pre Quarter-final stage: Adhyan Pareek, Class 9 (U-17)

Quarterfinalist: Kritartha Koushik (U-17)

Pre-Quarterfinalist: Benjamin M. Macdonald (U-14)



INTER HOUSE TABLE TENNIS COMPETITION

Overall Inter-House Results:

1st Position:

Jinari - Manas And Bhoroli- Lohit

3rd Position

Subansiri- Namdang

4th Position

Kopili-Dhansiri

LOWER SCHOOL HINDI DEBATES

1st Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

2nd Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

3rd Position: Subansiri- Namdang

4th Position: Jinari-Manas

Best Speaker - Shambhavi Chauhan (K-4015)

Most Promising Speaker- Soham Agarwal (D-4138)

SHILLONG HERITAGE HORSE SHOW

A total of 14 students from The Assam Valley School participated in the event including 4 Girls and 10 boys. The results are as follows:

1. Hacks Children - 2

Purab Deka - Silver
Rudrakshi Bharadwaj - Bronze
Chello Jangkam - Bronze
Niraan Aadi - Bronze

2. Hacks Children - 1

Shannia Rididi - Gold
Kartik Dudheria- Silver
Atreyo Joy Das - Bronze

3. Dressage Junior

Anikaith A. Joshi- Gold
Karan N. Gam- Bronze

4. Children's Gymkhana

Rudrakshi Bharadwaj- Gold

Junior Jumping 85 cms

Mebaman Kharlyngdoh - Gold
Karan N. Gam - Bronze
Violina- Forth

6. Children- 1 Dressage

Dibakar Singha (Thunderbolt)- Gold
Dibakar Singha (Danubvalley) Silver
Shannia Rididi - Bronze

7. Knockout open



Mebaman Kharlyngdoh- Bronze

8. Junior Hacks

Karmin Bam - Bronze

9. Children-2 Dressage

Purab Deka- Gold
Chello Jangkam- Silver
Agastya Jaju- Bronze

10. Children- 2 Show Jumping

Agastya Jaju - Gold

11. Children Show Jumping

Dibakar Singha- Gold

12. Open Show Jumping

Anikaith A. Joshi- 4th position

13. Medley Relay

Violina Baruah - Bronze
Mebaman Kharlyngdoh - Bronze

Total medals

Gold: 8

Silver: 4

Bronze: 12

Best Rider Trophy Children-1: Dibakar Singha

Best Rider Trophy Children- 2: Agastya Jaju

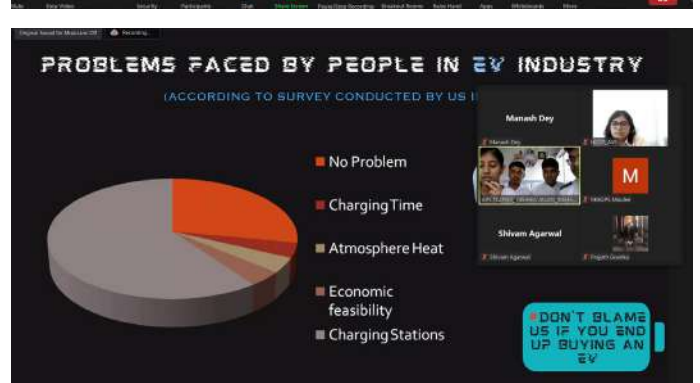
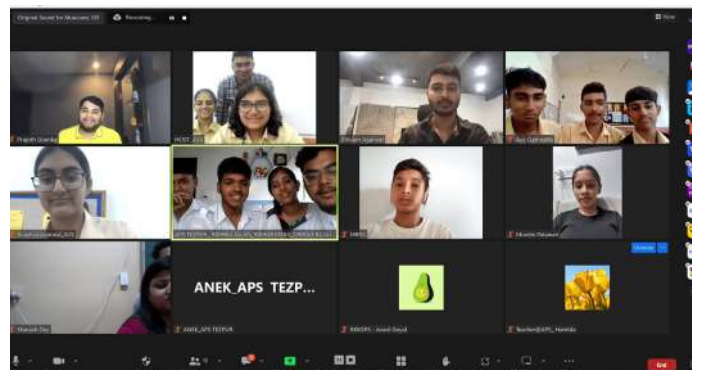
INTERSCHOOL BUSINESS MODEL COMPETITION

The results are as follows:

The First Prize was secured by Team 2- Evolve of Army Public School Tezpur with 159.5 points.

The Second Prize was secured by Team 7- The Recycling Solution of The Assam Valley School with 151.5 points.

The Third position was secured by Team 5- Anek of Army Public School with 142 Points.



RS CONFERENCE TO LAWRENCE SCHOOL

A team of six students led by Mrs. Indra Rao Mahanta participated in the Round Square Conference hosted by the Lawrence School, Sanawar (H.P.) from 5th to 9th June 2023. A total of 244 students from across 27 schools in India and abroad assembled to deliberate on the theme of the conference; 'Protect, Preserve, Progress for Sustainable Happiness'. The inspiring keynote speakers Ms. Rajbir Sandu the Round Square Schools' Support Director of South Asia & Gulf Region, Mr. Kartik Satyanarayan, Mr. Arjun Kochar and Lt. Gen. Kamal Dawar who enlightened the students on various aspects of wildlife protection, forests conservation and physical as well as mental well-being for sustainable happiness. The evenings of the three-day conference were replete with amazing story-telling sessions by the renowned storyteller Mrs. Rituparna Ghosh. The students participated in a plethora of activities ranging from social service to adventure. In the cultural evening the Aviators performed a fashion show showcasing the traditional attire of the Northeast followed by a Bihu dance which was much appreciated.

The power-packed discussions and deliberation during the Barraza sessions provided an enriching experience for the attendees, fostering the exchange of views, personal growth, and a deeper understanding of the theme of the conference.



WORLD YOGA DAY



On the 21st of June, The Assam Valley School celebrated World Yoga Day with a Yoga session that both students and teachers participated in.



ALUMNI NEWS

Nelson and a film crew from Mobius Films, Mumbai were at AVS recently to shoot and retrace his steps back to AVS where he imbibed the values of gender equity and right thinking through enlightened education. This shoot is for a very interesting documentary series titled 'Men of Substance' (working title), with a focus to change the narrative about masculinity and male stereotypes, thereby also empowering women and encouraging gender sensitivity. Nelson Deb founded The Eco Hub in 2012, a pioneering social enterprise in the northeast region of India that engages marginalized women to produce sustainable menstrual products, and eco-friendly paper stationery and works with rural women handloom artisans to produce textiles with Kantha embroidery. Nelson has his Bachelor in English (Hons) and has a Diploma in Fashion Design and Boutique Management along with Animation and Multimedia, from Bangalore University. He has been certified as a WASH (water, sanitation,



and hygiene) consultant and an MHM (Menstrual Health Management) facilitator by WASH United, Berlin. He has over 5 years of work experience as a Web Design Consultant for a leading web design Australian firm. In 2018 he co-founded Bodhana NGO which works in the space of WASH, breast cancer, and gender. Nelson is the India partner for the Oscar-winning short documentary Period - End of Sentence, 2018, The Pad Project based in Los Angeles, and a former fellow at World Professional Congress in Washington DC. He is a documentarian, enjoys traveling, and is an art fanatic.

INTERHOUSE MUSIC

The Inter-House Music took place in the Williamson Magor Hall on the 16th of June from 3 to 5 PM. Mr. Santanu Baruah, Mr. Partha Pratim Neog, and Mr. Ashwin Sharma were the judges for the competition. Abhinashni Eon Baruah and Anikaith Anant Joshi served as the show's hosts. Their casual and witty banter set the pace of the afternoon and was an added factor to the entertainment. The Western Vocal Duo category opened with Subansiri-Namdang performing "Shallow." The next house was Kopili-Dhansiri who sang "Love You Dangerously." Jinari-Manas then performed their own version of "Tale as Old as Time" Bhoroli-Lohit delivered the category's final performance, "Like I'm Gonna Lose You."

The Western Band was the next category. The hall echoed with the music from the instruments and kept the audience thoroughly engaged. The much anticipated Western Choir was the final category. The choirs sang their own rendition of popular songs like 'Some Nights', 'Circle of Life' and 'All for Us'.

The Western Music results were as follows:

Vocal Duo

1st Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

2nd Position: Subansiri-Namdang

3rd Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

4th Position: Jinari-Manas



Western Band

1st Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

2nd Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

3rd Position: Subansiri-Namdang

4th Position: Jinari-Manas

Western Choir

1st Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

2nd Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

3rd Position: Jinari-Manas

4th Position: Subansiri-Namdang



Indian Music was held in the evening from 6PM to 8PM and was judged by Mr. Bishnu Goswami, Mr. Debajyoti Nath and Ms. Pranami Borthakur.

The first category was Duo Instrumental. The category showcased the hours of practice poured into perfecting the pieces each House performed.

The next category was the Indian Vocal Group. 'Allah Ke Bande' and 'Maula Mere Lele Meri Jaan' were performed by Subansiri-Namdang as part of the opening performance. Kopili-Dhansiri then followed up with "Maula-Maula." Jinari-Manas performed next, singing "Dam Ali-Ali" and "Bhar Do Jholi." The category was concluded by Bhoroli-Lohit with "Kun Faya Kun" and "Damma Dum Mast Kalandar."

The final category of the evening was Indian Fusion with Subansiri-Namdang performing first, followed by Kopili-Dhansiri. Jinari-Manas promptly followed and the last performance of the evening was performed by

Bhoroli-Lohit.

The results were as follows:

Instrumental Duet -

1st Position: Subansiri-Namdang

2nd Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

3rd Position: Jinari-Manas

4th Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

Indian Vocal Group -

1st Position: Jinari-Manas

2nd Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

3rd Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

4th Position: Subansiri-Namdang

Indian Fusion -

1st Position: Jinari-Manas

2nd Position: Bhoroli-Lohit

3rd Position: Kopili-Dhansiri

4th Position: Subansiri-Namdang

OVERALL POSITIONS:

1st Position Bhoroli-Lohit with 667 points

2nd Position Subansiri-Namdang with 646 points

3rd Position Kopili-Dhansiri with 640 points

4th Position Jinari-Manas with 630 points



THE OUTPOST

One of the biggest tragedies on the Mediterranean took place with the capsizing of the migrant ship off Greece killing over 100 people. Even as the death toll continues to rise the demise of 298 Pakistanis discriminated against and forced to go below deck, gives this tragedy a darker shade of grief. Manipur continues to simmer even as solution and an end to the violence seems difficult to reach. PM Modi's state visit to USA promises fan-fare fit for a big grand Indian wedding even as Biden eyes the Indian diaspora as swing vote in the next Presidential elections.

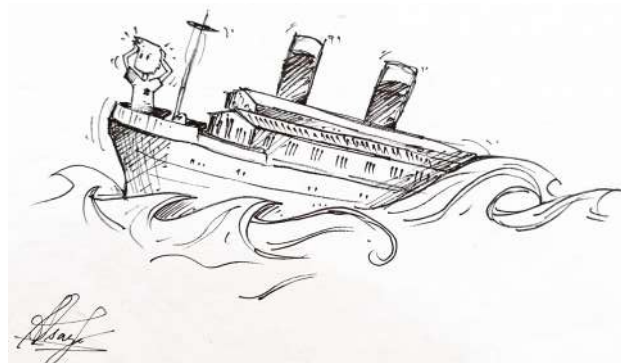


Illustration: Sara Jha, XII

Ripple #208

-Rianna Irom, IX

Watch closely,
As the impostor takes his
place on stage
The son of Icarus — he
stands tall with his mask in
place,
With all the hubris of a fool
who got too much praise.

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "Follow my accept request." - Siddhi Priyadarshani, IX (*Declined.*)
2. "What were you doing tomorrow post dinner?" - Ojasvi Agarwal, XII (*Praying for your braincells*)
3. "The cockroach saw me across the room." - Akansha Bhuyan, XI (*True love*)
4. "Ask me questions, you must be stucking." - Dr. Alpana Dey (*Ma'am you sound just as confused.*)
5. "I like my new gasses." - Kemo Dulom, XII (*Don't pass gas in public.*)



Keep It Reel!

Rocking it

-Mr. Anubhav Sarkar



Editor-in-Chief: Emidaka Rapsang

Deputy Editor: Deubale Meru

Correspondents: Ssara, Zaheen, Tanveer, Anya and Neilginryan

Design & Layout: Emidaka

Illustrators: Hana Ahmed, Imnalemla & Gaurish

Photography Credits: Photographic Society

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

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

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



The views expressed in articles printed are the authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of AVE or its editorial policy.