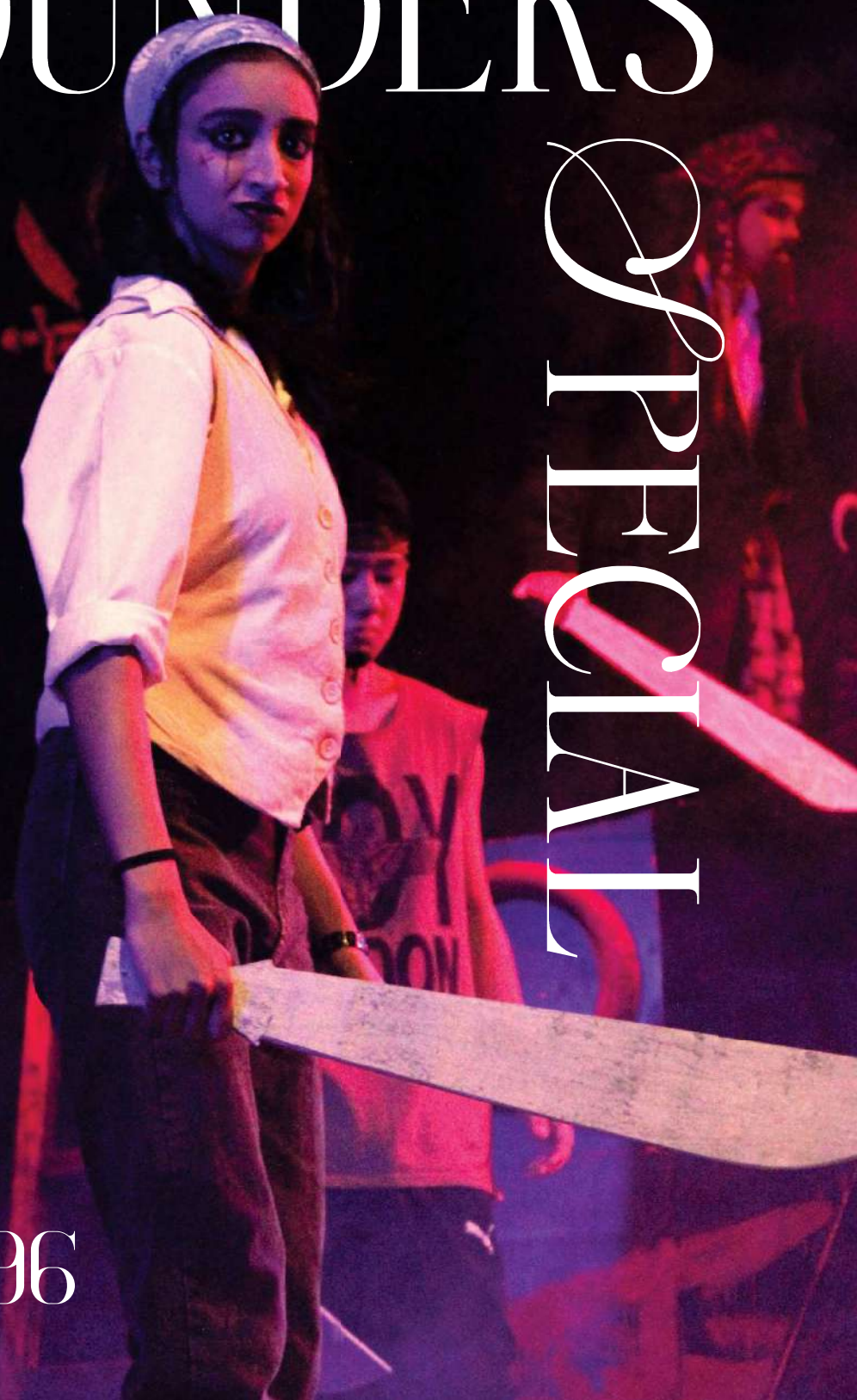


30TH FOUNDERS'

SPECIAL

ISSUE 196





A photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit and a white shirt, speaking into a microphone at a wooden podium. The podium has a green sign that reads "THE ASSAM VALLEY SCHOOL". To the right of the podium is a floral arrangement with white flowers and green leaves. The background is dark and patterned.

THE ASSAM VALLEY SCHOOL

OPENING CEREMONY

- Nongthombam Chingkheinganbi Devi, XI

The spirit of Founders' came alive on October 17th with the much-anticipated Opening Assembly at the Williamson Magor Hall of The Assam Valley School. The event began on a solemn note as the Headmaster, Dr. Amit Jugran, announced the passing of Mrs. Heather Carling, mother of the founding Headmaster, Mr. Paul Carling, whose visits and love for theatre left a lasting legacy at AVS. The school observed a minute's silence in her and Dr. Zubeen Garg's memory before

singing the hymn *On This School Your Blessing, Lord*. Dr. Jugran then conveyed the regret of Mr. David Summerscale, Chairman of the Governing Body, who could not attend the event. On his behalf, Editor-in-Chief Erik Angie Riba read his message, commending AVS for being ranked India's number 1 co-ed boarding school and extending warm wishes for Founders' and Diwali. The assembly concluded with the screening of the AVS Electronic Media's documentary 'Un Legado.'

PLAYZONE

TAPS Debate
Exhibitions
Indian Music Production
Assamese Play



TAPS Debate 2025

The Alumni vs. Present Students Debate

- Aanya Paul Sarkar, Deputy Editor, XII

The annual TAPS Debate, a hallmark of intellectual engagement between The Assam Valley School alumni and present students, was held in the Williamson Magor Hall on 17th October, marking the spirited beginning of Founder's celebrations. The motion for the day, "This House Believes That Values Should Change with Time", set the stage for an evening of powerful rhetoric, thoughtful reflection, and sharp rebuttals. Speaking for the Proposition were the alumni: Surajdeep Singh (ISC Batch of 2014), a computer science graduate and senior content strategist; Deval Tibrewalla (ISC Batch of 2003), CEO and Director of Polo Hotels & Resorts; and Anirban Saikia (ISC Batch of 2010), Administration and Contract Officer at Matheson Hydrogen India Pvt. Ltd.

The Proposition opened with an intriguing analogy, comparing values to money, asserting that just as economies evolve to survive inflation and stagnation, so too must values adapt to remain relevant in an ever-changing world. They argued



that static values would render societies immobile, much like an unamended constitution unable to meet the demands of time.

The Opposition, comprising Zaheen Rafia Shah (Debating Captain) Aliden Jahzara Ovung, and Neilginryan Das, stood firm in their conviction that values are the unchanging moral compass of humanity. They emphasised that while circumstances and interpretations may shift, the core of values must remain unwavering to ensure social cohesion. To them, values form the backbone of civilisation and are not meant to be fleeting. They are intended to outlast it. After a closely contested debate, Team Alumni triumphed. Mr. Anirban Saikia was named the Most Promising Speaker, while Mr. Deval Tibrewalla was adjudged the Best Speaker, concluding an evening that truly celebrated the spirit of dialogue and intellectual camaraderie.



EXHIBITIONS

- Khichu Kath, XII

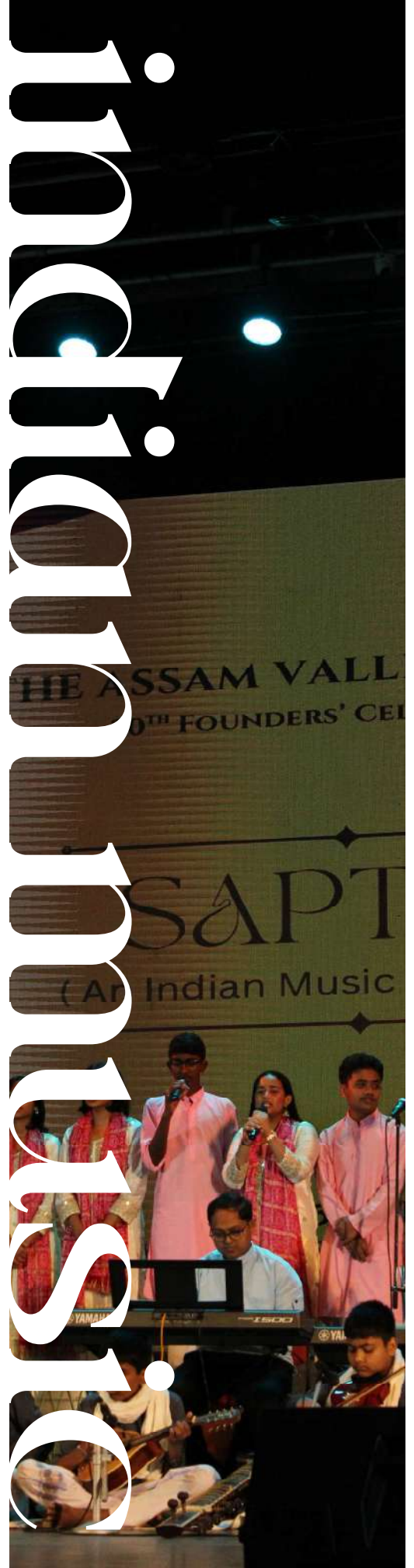
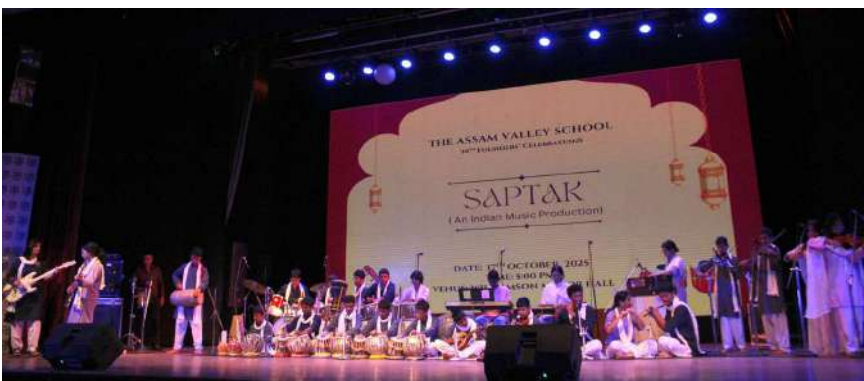
The much-awaited exhibitions of the 30th Founders' were inaugurated by the Chief Guest, alumnus Mr. Irwin Daimari (Headboy, Namdang, ISC batch of 2016). Marking three decades of Founders', this year's displays were vibrant and beautifully curated. The Craft, Design, and Technology exhibition stood out with its creative décor and a picture-perfect entrance that became quite the popular photo spot. Students and teachers transformed classrooms into lively showcases of talent.

The Science Exhibition and Math exhibition impressed visitors with their innovative drones and games, while the Handmade Card and Gaming exhibitions also drew enthusiastic crowds, thus reflecting the creativity and collaborative spirit of the Founders' celebrations.



A captivating evening of music unfolded at the Williamson Magor Hall, leaving the audience spellbound. The performances began with a heartfelt tribute to Dr. Zubeen Garg, as students rendered 'Mayabini' with grace and emotion. This was followed by *Saptak* – The Octave of Endless Possibilities, showcasing the versatility as well as the

depth of musical talent among the students. The next performance, *Paheli*, stood out for its beautiful interplay of flute melodies harmonising with diverse instrumental sounds, creating not only a soothing but also an immersive experience. The evening culminated in a vibrant Indo-Western fusion, blending Indian ragas with contemporary Western rhythms, a perfect finale that celebrated both tradition and innovation. The event concluded with words of gratitude to the faculty and participants, whose dedication and passion made the performances truly memorable. The show was a testament to the school's vibrant musical culture and the unifying power of art.



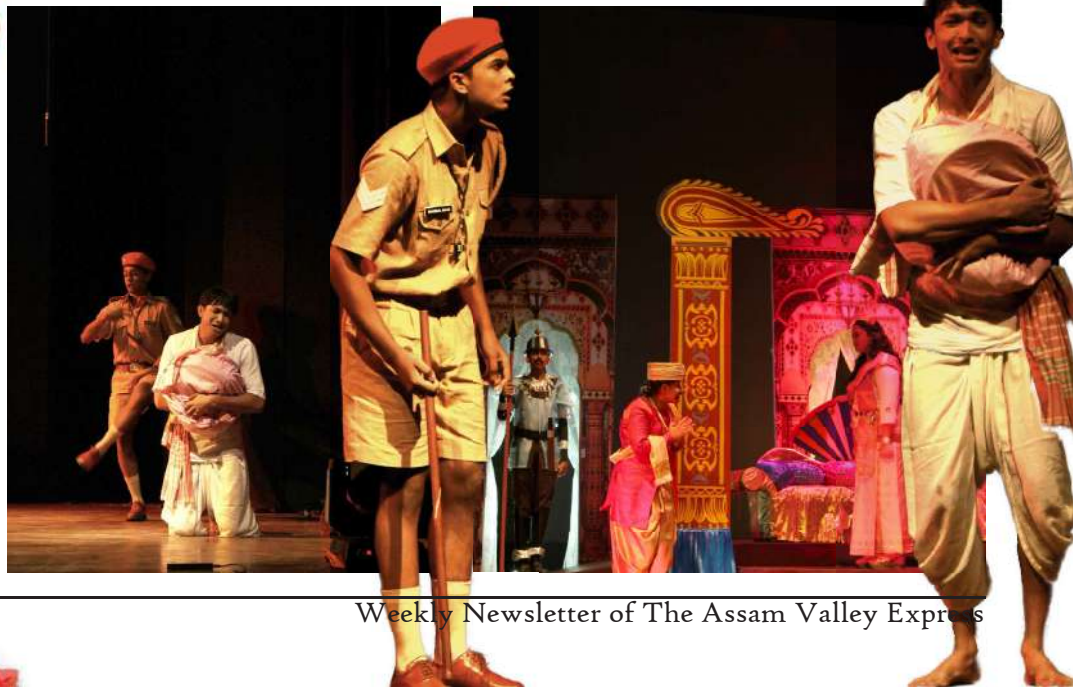
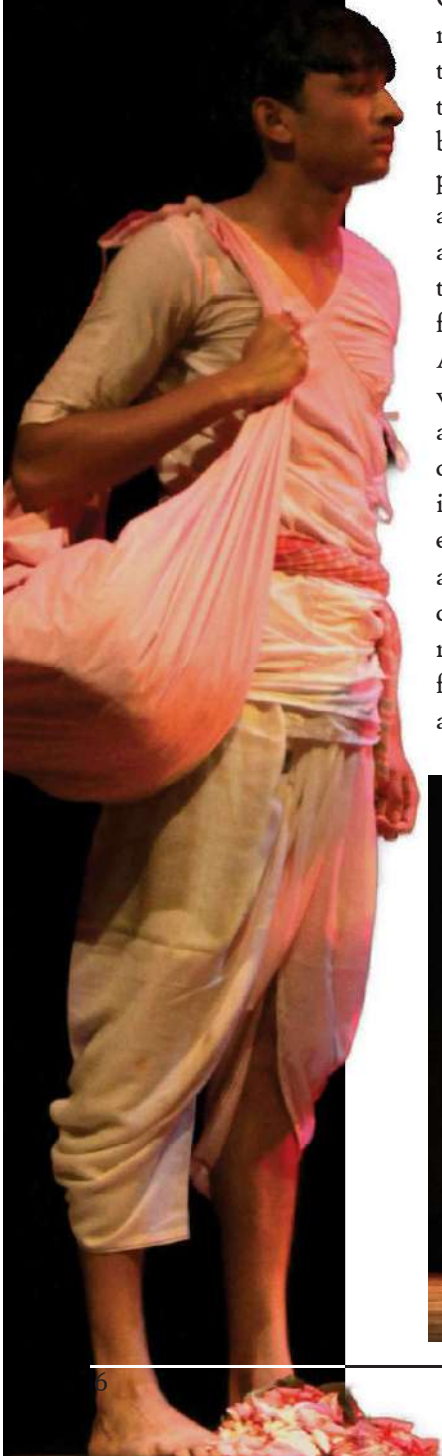
ASSAMESE PLAY

“CHARAN DAS CHOR”

- Tanveer Ahmed, XII

This year's Assamese play, Charandas Chor, was a delightful rendition of a much-loved classic that brought laughter and life to the stage. Set against the backdrop of rural Assam, the play skillfully blended humour and local flavour, keeping the audience thoroughly entertained till the very end. The story follows Charandas, played by Adhayan Saikia, a simple man who turns to thievery for survival and relies on his quick wit to outsmart others. His constant run-ins with the determined Havildar, enacted by Drishan Jatin Bora, added to the play's humour and charm. Despite being clever and resourceful, Charandas often found himself in tricky situations as he tried to evade the police.

At a crucial point, he takes four sacred vows before a guru, which he swears never to break, only to face situations that test his honesty and integrity. The narrative explored these moral dilemmas through lighthearted yet thought-provoking scenes. The play stood out for its sharp comic timing, lively dialogues, and commendable performances of the students, who brought every character to life on stage. Under the aegis of Dr. Parineeta Goswami, with costume and set designs by Dr. Dimple Baruah and directed by Mr. Kushal Deka and assisted by Mr. Tapan Goswami, the Assamese production this year was the highlight of Founders' showcasing the talent of the students with a professional flair.



DAVVO

Western Music Production
Dance Drama
English Play

WESTERN MUSIC

- Timzenla Ozukum, XI



The school auditorium recently resonated with the spectacular 'Sonic Tapestry,' a Western music production that showcased incredible student talent. The evening opened with a captivating acappella performance by Mr. Aditya Suman and his vocal students, beautifully blending the Bulgarian folk song

'Kavai Sviri' and The Eagles' 'Seven Bridges Road.' This was followed by a melodious guitar and flute ensemble led by Mr. Manoj Hazarika. The energy escalated with a powerful Western orchestra under Mr. Manaskam Kakati, delivering Iron Maiden's 'The Trooper,' a symphonic medley of their greatest hits. The grand finale was a unique Big Band ensemble, uniting students and faculty for a breathtaking rendition of Led Zeppelin's classic, 'Stairway to Heaven.' It was a truly unforgettable morning of musical brilliance.



DANCE

-Urvashi Bora, XI

For the 30th Founders' celebration, the dance production Ram Tatha Katha brought the epic Ramayan to life. Directed by Mrs. Ruby Bordoloi and scripted by alumna Violina Bordoloi, it beautifully traced Shri Ram's journey from boyhood to his triumphant return to Ayodhya. The graceful Sattriya choreography,

enhanced by grand costumes and striking videography, created a visual spectacle that celebrated the timeless triumph of good over evil, adding grandeur to the three-day festivities and capturing the true spirit of Founders'.

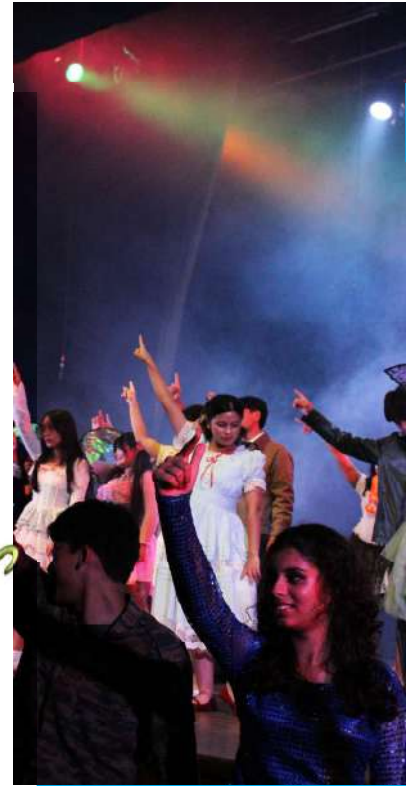


English Play



This year's English play, *Peter Pan*, directed by Mr. Ranjeev Lal Barua and Mr. Abhinav Gogoi, offered a contemporary take on J.M. Barrie's 1904 classic: *Peter Pan*.

The story followed Wendy (played by Indapher Nongpiur), a young girl who wishes to never grow up. Her wish is granted by the mischievous yet endearing Peter Pan (Rangsang Pariat), who whisks her away to a world of endless adventure. What begins as a thrilling escape soon turns into a journey of self-



discovery, as Wendy learns valuable lessons about courage, friendship, and responsibility. Along the way, she meets the spirited Tinker Bell (Vidhi Chopra), graceful mermaids, and the hilarious villain Captain Hook (Agnivh Bora), whose comic timing drew waves of laughter from the audience. It was the islanders, led by Kevisetto Meyase and Niyang Waii, who drew the loudest applause along with the entry of the pirates on their ship. Filled with vibrant dances, captivating music, as well as heartfelt performances, *Peter Pan* is centred around the urgency of protecting the world's fragile ecosystem, reminding us that true magic lies in unity, imagination, and the courage to face life's adventures together.



DAY THREE

Speech Day
Western Choir



SPEECH DAY

- Rianna Lingjel Irom, XI

On the last day of the 30th Founders' Celebrations, the endless efforts of the student body were celebrated one last time before everyone made their way back home. The WMH came alive as the School Choir sang the congregational hymn, "You Raise Me Up", which was followed by a thoughtful and eloquent prayer recited by the Head Girl, Natasha Billimoria, XII. The 30th Founders' Magazine of the Assam Valley Express was then released by Mr. Aditya Khaitan, along with the Literary Journal. He also rewarded students for academic excellence before addressing the gathering. Mr. A. Khaitan shared the example of Ugandan runner Stephen Kryptik in the 2012 London Olympics as he spoke about self-mastery growth and the phrase "life is not a rat-race". The Chief Guest, Mr. Pabitra Margherita, the Minister of State for External Affairs as well as the Minister of State for Textiles, was then requested to release the 2025 Yearbook. While addressing the gathering, he spoke of discipline and how one's choices shape one's future.

After Mr. Margherita's address, Mrs. Kavita Khaitan was requested to release Orchid: Culture and Lifestyle and the Coffee Tablebook. This was soon followed by the Founders' Awards, as students proudly made their way to the stage to reap what

they had sowed with their blood, sweat, and tears. To serve as both an intermission and entertainment, the Western Choir came forward with a marvelous rendition of Queen's "Don't Stop Me Now", among other musical numbers. After the lively musical performance, the Headmaster, Dr. Amit Jugran, stepped forward to pay tribute to the school's thirty years-long legacy as he announced that the school had made it to the #1 Rank in EducationWorld India's Ranking for All-India Best Boarding Schools. This was followed by the final set of Founders' Awards, as well as the much-awaited RB Magor, which was claimed by Bhoroli-Lohit. The event came to an end with a presentation from the Electronic Media team, *Un Legado: Pass It On* that evoked a sense of pride in each and every Aviator.

FOUNDERS' AWARDS

Heather Carling Award for Contribution in Dramatics: Arushi Jakhmola

King Constantine Medal for Promoting the Ideals of Round Square: Aliden Jahzara Ovung

The AVS Award for Outstanding Contribution to Social Service: Debangana Nath & Meghna Baruah

The AVS Award for Outstanding Contribution to Cultural Life of the School: Drengo Mihu & Swastika Baruah

The AVS Award of Pursuit of Excellence: Urvee Rathi

David Summercale's Award of Excellence in Literary Pursuits: Aanya Paul Sarkar & Erik Angie Riba

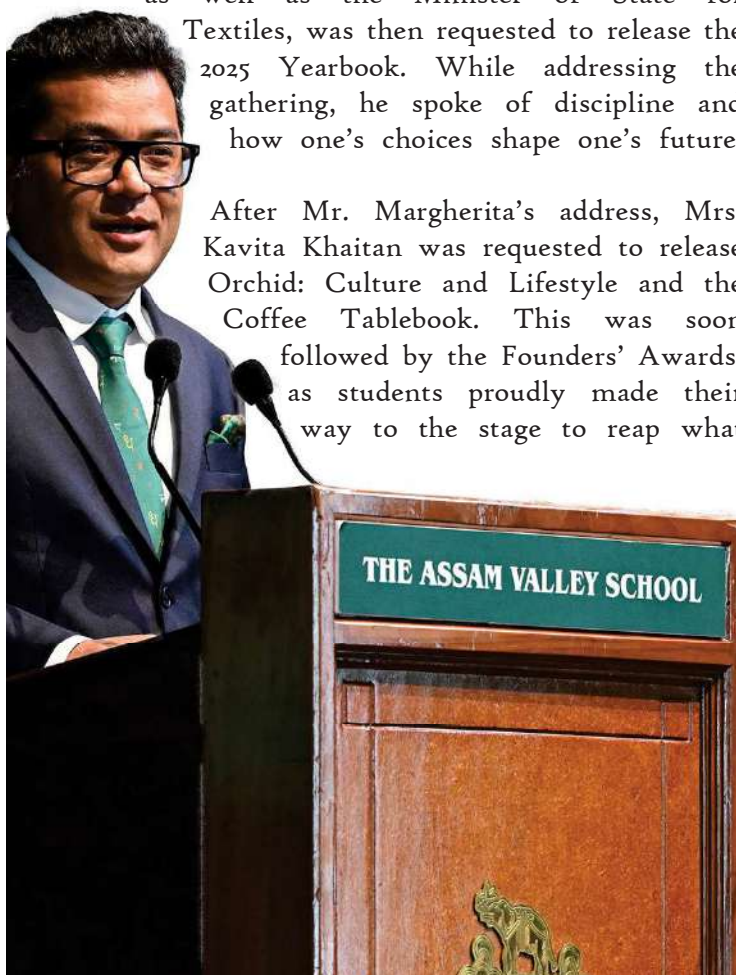
Angshuman Nath Trophy for Excellence and Leading Contribution to Various Areas of School Life: Tanveer Ahmed & Zerayah Cadessa Syiem

Stuti Pande Prize for Improvement Determination & Perseverance: Carlynda B. P. Lyngdoh & Imchalong Longchari

The Headmaster's Award for Integrity: Natasha Billamoria

The Headmaster's Award for Service: Adhayan Saikia

The Headmaster's Award for Leadership: Ayithe Vusshe





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Illustrators: Austin and Baibhav

Photographs: Rianna and Angie

Mistress-in-Charge: Ms. Sarmistha Paul Sarkar

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

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