

VASANT VALLEY TODAY

To the Batch of 2021

VVS HUHH!!

Just like the past eight months of our existence have been compressed into a 25 window grid on Zoom, we have had to do the seemingly impossible task of condensing 14 years of our lives into just a few words. We could never have imagined that our last Founder's Day would be online. From making 'Expectation V/S Reality' posts for the school Instagram account, our lives became an 'Expectation V/S Reality' meme.



From making a chain with our belts under the blankets while pretending to sleep in class 1 to having belt fights in class 6, we didn't even wear belts for Zoom classes. Instead of running from the field to reach class on time, we were juggling between hotspots and WiFis. Instead of getting handshakes and hugs with awards, we saw our names floating with animations on a PowerPoint presentation. Our hopes of getting a normal graduation, with blasting music at the farewell dinner, walking up to the stage on farewell class act and walking down the aisle of the centre stage seemed like a distant dream.

SCHOOL WATCH

Inter Section Vocabulary Quiz Classes 9-12

Class 9
1st Sumaya Beri
2nd Darsh Puri, Kyra Dhingra, Kabir Datta and Aryaman Sharma

Class 10
1st Advaita Sehgal, Vedant Singh and Shyla Upadhyay
2nd Jai Mittal

Class 11
1st Shiveka Bakshi and Kavyini Garodia
2nd Vijit Mann, Ishaan Wahi, Mahika Dalmia and Arshya Gaur

Class 12
1st Siddhant Gandhi and Rishnav Thadani
2nd Ananya Rani Malhotra

Inter Section Creative Writing- Class 11

1st Manan Ahuja
2nd Arshya Gaur and Kavin Bhatia
3rd Kavyini Garodia

Just a Minute for Classes 6, 7 and 8

Class 8
1st Nikasha Manktala and Savya Meattle
2nd Kyra Dhar
3rd Aarush Kapur, Devangana Jain and Kaasvee Kaur

Class 7
1st Meera Shukla
2nd Ritika Panwar and Nirvaan Manaktala
3rd Amaera Kher

Class 6
1st Shivkaran Singh
2nd Veda Kalra
3rd Maheeka Saraf

However, we realised that while "The Covid Batch" was in our face, there's so much more to this group of 106 wonderfully multitasking people. We are the batch of excellent dancers, writers, musicians, actors, painters, photographers, orators and tech-whizzes, and, most importantly, we are a batch of people united at heart. Since the very first day that we walked into Vasant Valley School, we've become a family. We are the batch who made the best use of what we had, forming new friendships and bonds while being on meetings till the crack of dawn, and falling asleep after tirelessly trying to make things work.

We are the batch with no kasoor, but with an amazing 'Kasoor' video. We are the batch that spontaneously broke out into bhajans at the top of our voices the moment the staff room meeting got over to hide the fact that we were actually playing music on the smart-board. We are the batch that played antakshari across tents when the rain spoiled our trekking plans at Yatra. We are the batch that embraced the excuse of "Ma'am, my internet isn't working" as our best friend. We are the batch who has mastered the art of online event planning. We are the batch with ever-changing House alliances, intense House rivalries and competition, but we are also the batch that added a whole new original song category to the music competition because we celebrate everything together. We are the batch that has made the basketball court and the bathrooms our home. We are the batch with the weirdest names for our friend groups like PRKBG, AB10, GG and Sneakin. We are the batch that shamelessly breaks the lunch line for rajma chawal and gulab jamun. We are the batch that never turns down a party. We are the batch that got pranked by the teachers on the Class 10 adventure camp, sitting for almost an hour chanting 'Om', hoping to get a glimpse of the non-existent all-knowing baba. But we are also the batch that is already going off to college, without getting a chance to properly say goodbye to school.

From jumping off trucks with us to always being our safety net when we fall, from giving us laddoo marks in our exams, to feeding us laddoos on independence day, our teachers are our biggest source of strength, as well as gossip, and we'll be forever grateful for them. We'd also like to thank the didis, bhaiyas, sister and the administration for tolerating all our antics with a patient smile, whether it's breaking the windows in class or wanting to sleep in the AC instead of attending classes. While right now we're confined to our homes, we know that no matter where the next few years take us, all 106 of us are just a Zoom call away. We are the Batch of 2021.



FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS 2020

November 18th- the day that all students look forward to, in order to celebrate the school spirit in full aplomb and glory. While we succeeded in jumping over the many hurdles that the pandemic presented us with, Founder's Day was perhaps one hurdle which many of us were reluctant to cross at first, due to the preconceived notion that it just wouldn't be the same. It is unfortunate that this time we didn't get to miss classes for run throughs, or get to sit in the Vasant Manch to admire the performances while gossiping with our friends. However, come what may, nothing stopped us from paying homage to the motto of our school, especially on this very special day. 'Excellence in Deed' was our endeavour in every challenge thrown at us.



EVENT 1

It was a tough second term for the whole school with the unexpected extension of online school and the frustration of being confined to our homes. Everyone was thinking about how Founders Day would be conducted online. 'The Beatles', 'Disney', and the 'Story of Benaam' – how would we top the past celebrations? How could we include everyone in such a large performance without meeting one another? The very simple and short answer to these questions was, "We can't." The teachers in charge selected a few of us to try and make this Founder's Day a memorable one. We worked every day to make it relatable, engaging, entertaining and meaningful for everyone who has been a part of this tradition for years on end. We handpicked the key moments, most sought after themes, and the evergreen and exciting memories out of every Founder's Day that we've had over the past few years. We built a plot around these, introducing several characters and teachers in the mix and adding emotion and excitement to the presentation. Rummaging through old memories of how Founder's Day has evolved over so many years took the dreariness out of the tedious process of compiling and editing. With the help of our teachers, I'm glad to say that we were able to present a video that we all were proud of. *-Krishna Dev Aggarwal, 10*

EVENT 2

Never in our wildest dreams could we fathom attending school from our homes, let alone participating in online sports competitions and academic activities. This year definitely paved the path to innovation as the pandemic compelled us to put on our thinking caps to make this academic year as 'normal' as possible. Looking back at all that we were able to accomplish over the past few months, makes us feel proud at achieving the seemingly 'impossible.' This was the inspiration behind our video for Founder's Day this year. From the first ever online Inter-House event, which was the Mark D'Souza Western Music Competition, all apprehensions about missing out on these much-loved activities were put to rest. The effort put in by the students in compiling almost professional-looking videos, and by the teachers in organising this first event set the bar very high for all activities to follow and we are proud to say that each event presented something new and unimaginable. While brainstorming ideas for Founder's Day, we were presented with the most difficult task of trying to top all the videos that were made in the past. After multiple late-night script writing sessions, numerous 'CUT!' 'RE-SHOOT!' calls and deadline scares, we were finally able to weave a narrative around all that we were able to achieve as a school this year. It was testament to the abilities and determination that was showcased by the entire Vasant Valley family which never fails to amaze us.

-Arshya Gaur, 11

IPL FINALS 2020



56 league matches, three playoffs and a grand finale later, it's all over. The thrill of these exciting 7:30 pm matches that kept us glued to our screens has now finally culminated in a magnificent final celebrating a decisive victory for the clear front-runners of this season (Congratulations to the MI Paltan!)

This season, we witnessed the rise of the team that has been an underdog since the advent of the Indian Premier League with their entry into their first IPL final – the reformed Delhi Capitals. The consistent, exceptional and seemingly customary rise of the now five time champions, the legendary Mumbai Indians, was another highlight, with them clinching the title with grace and flawlessness.

From the virtually unheard of 'first wicket on the first ball' of the final, to much-needed knocks from Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant (whose return to form resulted in a myriad of memes, of course) we all knew we were in for a treat; be it the former's captain counterpart Rohit Sharma or wonderful bowling from the likes of Trent Boult (the player of the match), and Nathan Coulter-Nile as well as Axar Patel on the DC front – the Mumbai Indians vs Delhi Capitals final was certainly never boring, even with an arguably easy target of 157 runs on the board. Though the result soon became somewhat predictable, this final was certainly one to remember.

This tournament has certainly been hard for the players, reluctantly housebound fans and organisers (BCCI and ECB) due to the pandemic and of course the change of venue from India to Dubai, it certainly delivered magnificently on the trademark IPL feelings of fun and excitement. Watching the post tournament presentation left us with a bittersweet feeling – as the season and our celebrations finally came to an end, from DC supporters or proud members of the MI Paltan, to those still crying foul at the defeats of their favourite teams, we will all miss our favourite season, the main source of entertainment and excitement – the Indian Premier League, even as we transfer our attention to the upcoming India Vs Australia series.

-Sumaya Beri and Trisha Jerath, 9

किसान का बलिदान

धरती का सीना सींच के जिसने दिया तुझे अन्न,
एहसान जताया है सत्ता के काल पाश में कर दिया
सब किसानों को बंद।

जय जवान जय किसान क्या करता है जब बन ना
सका तू इंसान,
ला खड़ा किया सड़कों पर तुम ने हमारा कृषि रूपक
भगवान।

जिन हाथों में हल थे आज माँग रहे अपने बच्चों
का सुनहरा कल वाह क्या बात है!
भारतवासियों, क्या ये था उनके परिश्रम का बलिदान!

कहो मत उनको आतंकवादी जो हैं आदर के सच्चे
अधिकारी, ये तो हैं मात्र एक चिंगारी अब हिल
जाएगी इमारतें सारी।



-प्रियांशु सेन, कक्षा ९-स

Your Resident Educated Indian's Views on the US Elections

Hi, my lovelies!

I know I've been away for a while, but it's only because I knew you all could still get information from Ben Shapiro. But enough of him— I'm back, baby!

I've been preoccupied with fighting the government over getting us the right to burst crackers— I don't believe these lies about them harming the environment any more than I believe that the Earth is round. You say you want trees? I want sparkles! Jeez! Let me breathe! In case you were wondering how that went, you can check out my daily vlogs (@orangeistheneworange). I'm gunning for them to reach 50 views! For those of you that have watched it and reached out to inquire about the Delhi Police filing a restraining order against me- it is indeed true. I didn't know it was possible to do that on the ground of being "infuriatingly ignorant!" My comment section is filled with words like that, but I consider them to be compliments!

You're probably wondering about my opinion on the U.S elections. I don't care what you say, Trump will always be my President. I know I'm not American, but the people around me certainly think they are (I mean there are people who are radio silent on issues throughout the year but suddenly care about these elections on Instagram, so why can't I?)

Personally, I was devastated when I found out that Joe Biden became President. If I hadn't created those 3 NGOs just so I could apply to college in the US, I would NOT be applying there right now. I think Trump should have won the election- he excels in all five areas of development:

Physical: From golfing sessions to typing in all-caps, Mr Trump has done a variety of activities to keep himself fit after recovering from the COVID hoax. It takes a lot of effort to address large, definitely not unsafe crowds, so you know he's pulling that weight!

Cerebral: He's applied all 3 of his brain cells to obviously show off his spelling prowess on Twitter by tweeting meaningless words by the hour! It just shows how much he prioritises education and that is one of the main reasons why I'm applying to 'Trump University' this year.

Emotional: This man has shown almost every emotion possible: from anger while chanting "COUNT THE VOTES", to rage through his demands of "STOP THE VOTE". He's not afraid to show his emotions to the whole world either- he must be the first President to BRAVELY throw a temper tantrum on Twitter.

Social: He's just absolutely amazing at handling his social media feed and not sowing discord in society through fake news! You know he's a well-loved man when people like Kanye, who don't even look at the camera on 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians', endorse a guy like him.

(!) This claim is disputed by official sources

Spiritual: He has reached new levels of enlightenment. He chants prayers every day and even has worshipping devotees! They're basically a Completely Kool Krew.

At the end of the day, why does Trump need Excellence in Deed when he can just Excellence impede? It's the only thing he has left to do, so he's gotta be right.

-Sanaa Sharma and Prithvi Oak, 12

WORLD TODAY

Under a huge white canopy tent facing Egypt's oldest pyramid, around 140 ancient mummies and antiquities were unveiled- nearly 2500 years after they were buried.

Vietnam is bracing for Typhoon Vamco to hit their central coast after the death toll in the Philippines rose to 53 due to the world's deadliest storm this year. This will be the 13th storm that has affected the Southeast Asian countries this year itself.

'The Spirit of the Rose', which is a rare, pink diamond from Russia, was sold at an auction in Geneva for a record breaking 21 million Swiss francs plus commissions.

President Donald Trump refused to accept defeat to his counterpart Joe Biden and pressed allegations of fraud to stall the government's normal process of election. His supporters have been trying to further these claims.

Two people are reportedly dead from the protests in Peru's capital Lima. The protesters had gathered to express their anger at the impeachment of President Martin Vizcarra.

Rockets were fired from the Tigray region of Ethiopia across the border of the capital city of Eritrea. However, there were no immediate reports of injuries as the tension between the Ethiopian government and the people from the country's Tigray region mounts.

NASA launched four astronauts to the International Space Station. This is the first government-certified flight of the SpaceX Crew Dragon Spacecraft, named 'Resilience' by the crew.

A Nobel UN food agency has warned leaders around the world that cases of hunger in 2021 will be worse than 2020, saying without the investment of billions of dollars, "we are going to have famines of biblical proportions."

-Anivartin Daga, 9

The French Situation

We are living in a time unlike any other. Humanity has moved beyond its primitive ties to land and hearth and has spread across the globe. However, the echoes of these primitive ties are still espoused in culture and tradition: they still cling on to us. If one looks to France, a troubling picture emerges.



Charlie Hebdo, a weekly French newspaper, published a series of satirical cartoons of The Prophet Muhammad in September 2012. On 7 January 2015, two Islamist gunmen killed 12 people after storming into the publication's office. It has been described as a barbaric act of violence, and has been condemned globally. In October 2020, this issue rose again; Samuel Paty, a teacher, was brutally murdered outside a school in suburban Paris for showing these caricatures to his students. A shocking act, yet again, that sent waves of anti-Islamic sentiments among the citizens of France.

A terrible cycle has begun now, with France holding fast to its values of secularism and freedom of speech and expression, which are historically considered the cornerstones of the French state. Slowly, the French government, led by President Macron, are moving to undermine Islamic identity itself in order to defeat terrorism. We must, however, realise the importance of acceptance, tolerance and respecting certain boundaries. Irrational criticism as well as unchecked hatred only destroys peace, and does not preserve it. Also, to blame an entire community for a few of its wayward proponents is ridiculous.

The only way to stop this hate-filled war is to learn to treat all people with respect. It is the only way we ourselves will receive respect and allow peace to prevail. France must not push away its population of Muslims, it must embrace them, make them feel welcome, because it is only then can it hope to have them assimilate in French society.

-Manan Ahuja, 11

FOUNDER'S DAY

Founder's Day has been a special occasion throughout the history of our school. Even though the way we celebrate it has changed over the years, every student works hard and leaves the stage to thunderous applause. The pandemic almost ruined our cherished festival but our team of teachers and students still found a way to celebrate the event.



It was a virtual experience which showcased art-work, spectacular dances and melodious orchestra that took us back many years. We got to

see glimpses of previous themes, such as the Ramayana and the Beatles. Seeing Ms. Krishnan and Ms. Purie standing in the school campus and speaking to us made us all feel very nostalgic. Sadly class eleven missed doing their final dance and class twelve missed walking down the steps on their last year of school. Though the COVID-19 virus deprived us of the joys of meeting each other, the family of Vasant Valley School like always put on a brave face and happily enjoyed the new normal- MEETING VIRTUALLY. Our 31st Founders Day has indeed been something special and unique, something we all will not forget for a long long time to come!

Avanti Chopra 5-C

MIGRATION

Migration from city to city,
Because of work, disease and better facility.
The risk of leaving your home,
Just to visit a place like Rome.
Not only humans but animals also migrate.
As they come across dangerous animals,
Who they try not to agitate.
We witnessed a migration this year
And there was only sorrow and fear.
Atleast there was no bloodshed,
In 1947 people were dead,
As they started to migrate partition was declared.
Everybody migrates for a different reason,
And hundreds of people migrate every season.
Migration is a part of our life,
It helps us all survive!

Aisha Goyal 5-A

Water Saved, is Water Earned

We use water everyday,
For cleaning, cooking and to play.
Cotton, paper, wood and my toy otter,
Are made of materials that could not grow without water.

Scarcity of water in villages and deserts,
Collecting it takes hard work and effort.
In olden times there were hand pumps and wells in town,

Every time they took a lot of water, the level went down.

My Nani said a lesson was learned,
That water saved, is water earned.
Now water comes easy from the river through the pipe,
Into my tank, to my tap and when it spills I have to wipe.

Wasting water is not wise,
Saving it for the future would be nice.
Harvest rainwater, use less showers,
Let's use leftovers to water our flowers.
Save water! Save water!

So I can continue playing with my toy otter!

Tarangani Sethi 3-A

'SUPERHEROES' of NURSERY



Children of Nursey enjoyed a special Music and Movement class, dressed up to perform to the Superhero song.

मैं दिल्ली हूँ

मैं भारत की राजधानी हूँ। मेरा नाम दिल्ली है। मेरा पुराना नाम इंदुप्रस्थ था। बहुत सारे महाराजाओं ने मेरे ऊपर राज किया था। १९११ में महाराजा जॉर्ज ने मुझे भारत की राजधानी बना दिया था। मेरे बीच में से यमुना नदी बहती है। मैं सर्दियों में बहुत ठंडी रहती हूँ और गर्मियों में तवे की तरह तपती हूँ। मेरी धरती पर बहुत से स्मारक और इमारतें हैं जैसे कि कुतुब मीनार, लाल किला और इंडिया गेट आदि। लोग मुझे दूर- दूर से देखने आते हैं। यह तो हो गई मेरी खूबियाँ। अब मेरी सबसे बड़ी कमी है कि मेरा वातावरण दूषित हो गया है। इसके कारण मैं बहुत ही दुखी हूँ। यह प्रदूषण गाड़ियों, कारखानों और दिल्ली के पड़ोसी राज्यों में पराली जलाने के कारण होता है। हर साल दिवाली के समय पटाखों के कारण भी हवा प्रदूषित होती है। पर इस साल हमारे मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल जी ने इस पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया है। यमुना नदी भी मनुष्यों की वजह से प्रदूषित हो गई है। प्रदूषित हवा और पानी के कारण दिल्लीवासियों को तरह-तरह की बीमारियाँ हो रही हैं। मुझे सभी मनुष्यों से कहना है कि मुझे और प्रदूषित ना करे और पहले जैसा हरा-भरा बनाने का प्रयास करें।

वीर रामचंदानी ४-स

The Bihar Premier League



After a close battle, the 'Final of the Bihar Premier League', as politician Tejashwi Yadav called it, was in favour of the defending champions NDA, totalling 125 seats. The Bihar elections have been the most anticipated Indian political event of 2020. Amidst the pandemic, three phases of elections were held to elect members to the 17th Bihar Legislative Assembly.

Media exit polls suggested that the RJD- Congress coalition, 'The Mahaghatbandhan', would form government this year but the women voters of Bihar curated a different result.

11 seats were won with a margin of less than a thousand votes only! The very closely contested election on investigation revealed that opposition leader Tejashwi Yadav steered the RJD to become the single largest party with 75 seats. The JDU saw a decline in votes and seats and the Congress seems to have negatively impacted the MGB's chances of victory. While the move by LJP to leave the NDA with an aim to dent the JDU worked miracles, Oiwasi's AIMIM also contested elections and won 5 seats successfully.

Altered voting patterns of social classes were noticed. Backward classes and Mahadalits, which constitute majority of the JDU's vote bank, cast their votes this time to add to the tally of RJD- a party said to be of the Yadavs and the Muslim community. Tempered with high drama this election saw many leaders promise high levels of development. Let's hope this development is delivered efficiently and with fervour before the next elections.

-Dakshayani Chandra, 10



Arnab Goswami's Arrest



Today, our legal system showcases a dual sided efficiency. While jails in India are flooded with hundreds of common people who have not been found guilty by any court, every other celebrity appears to walk out of jail only a few days after their arrest. Seeing well known media personality Arnab Goswami have his petition for release listed instantly and then being granted a bail was another clear example of the disparity that exists in our present legal system.

The 'Republic TV' news channel has a history of being openly partial towards right-wing politics in the country and many allege Arnab Goswami's arrest was politically motivated. The case had been closed when the BJP was in power in Maharashtra; however, Arnab Goswami's arrest was made now- when a new political regime has assumed power.

The main objective and greatest challenge that journalists face today is to remain unbiased. However, the news channel proved their inability towards portraying unbiased news by roaring slogans defending Arnab without a single proof of his innocence. This case has left us not only questioning the innocence of a well-known journalist, but also our government, media and, most importantly, our legal system.

-Anabita Kukreja, 11

खुशियों का बँटवारा



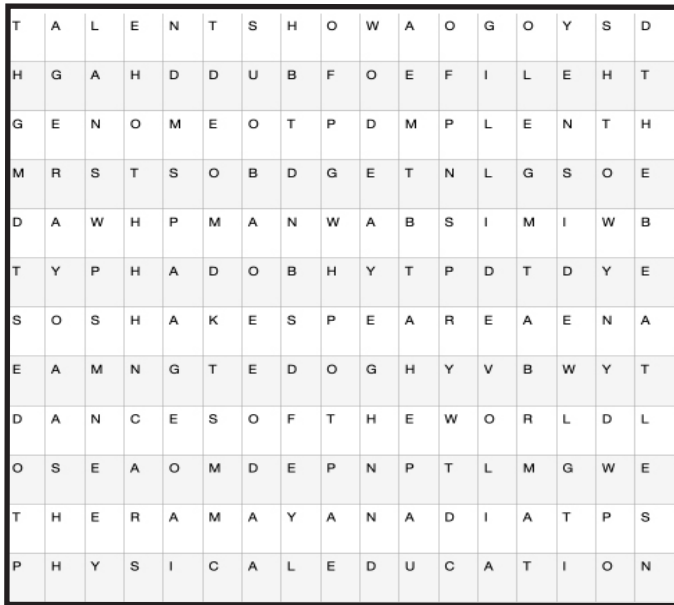
आधुनिकता की दौड़ में आजकल ज़ारा और एच० एंड एम० जैसी विदेशी कंपनियाँ के नाम सभी को आकर्षित करते हैं। इनके ब्रांड के कपड़ों को खोजते हुए हम अपने स्थानीय व्यापारों को भूल जाते हैं। वे स्थानीय व्यापार जो हमें अपनी अनोखी संस्कृति और भारतीयता से जोड़े रखते हैं। इसलिए "कुछ अच्छा हो जाए, कुछ मीठा हो जाए" की विरासत को बढ़ाते हुए कैडबरी ने स्थानीय व्यापारों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने की ज़िम्मेदारी अपने ऊपर ली।

कृत्रिम बुद्धि (Artificial Intelligence) के माध्यम से कैडबरी ने सभी स्थानीय व्यापारों का पिन-कोड इकट्ठा किया। इन स्थानीय व्यापारों के पास तकनीकी साधन नहीं हैं, इसलिए कैडबरी ने सारी जानकारी कम्प्यूटर प्रोग्राम में भरी। जब भी विज्ञापन किसी उपयोगकर्ता द्वारा मुंबई, दिल्ली, पुणे, इंदौर, अहमदाबाद और लखनऊ जैसे शहरों में देखा जाता है, तो यह उनके पिन कोड के आस-पास के स्थानीय व्यापारों के नाम विज्ञापन में ही दिखाई देते हैं। वैयक्तिक अनुभवों ने न सिर्फ स्थानीय व्यापारों की, अपितु दर्शकों के लिए भी खरीदारी का एक नया अनुभव दिया। सच में खुशियों से भर कर मीठी हो गई यह दिवाली!

एक मिनट के एक छोटे-से विज्ञापन ने दिलों पर ऐसा छाप छोड़ दिया, जो हमें खरीदने से पहले १० बार सोचने पर मजबूर करे। आप भी सोचिए, इस दिवाली आपने किसे-किसे खुश किया?

-अद्वैता सहगल और शायला उपाध्याय, १०

WORD SEARCH: FOUNDER'S DAY THEMES



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

THE LIFE OF BUDDHA

TALENT SHOW

THE BEATLES

DISNEY

GENOME

SHAKESPEARE

DANCES OF THE WORLD

THE RAMAYANA

I LOVE DILLI

-Prakriti Mahajan 12

The Protesting Producers

Armed with food supplies and unflinching courage, farmers across states have been protesting against the hurriedly cleared farm bills which have reconstructed their rights and have augured private players into the primary sector.



These bills have left the farmers feeling vulnerable. Most believe that the cushioning of the mandis and MSP will be cancelled and they will be left at the mercy of big corporate firms. The government's claims about the reforms reducing middlemen and giving farmers freedom to sell their produce outside APMC mandis in India have failed to placate fears.

However, with speculations of police reactions, international condemnation, politicians on an overdrive, artists and sportsmen giving up national honours, as well as the resurgence of the underlying issue of Khalistan, the focus has begun to shift from the farmers themselves.

Various state assemblies have passed bills to undo these laws, but the Central law still prevails. The farmer unions have called for a Bharat Bandh that has received a wide amount of support from across the country. The government and farmers have been holding talks continuously but remain in an unconstructive deadlock. The world is watching, waiting to see what happens ahead.

-Daksayani Chandra, Siddhant Nagrath, 10

YOUR NETFLIX BUCKET LIST



ENOLA HOLMES: Empowering and deeply entertaining, 'Enola Holmes' is a movie about solving mysteries. Whether you like Sherlock Holmes or not, it is a must-watch for any lover of fun, and has a cast starring Millie Bobby Brown and Henry Cavill



THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT: A seven-episode limited series, 'The Queens Gambit' will probably make you cancel the rest of your day just to finish it. Based around the chess prodigy Beth Harmon, it is a thriller dealing with addiction and obsession, bolstered by magnetic acting and stunning visual effects.



BAD BOY BILLIONAIRES INDIA: This documentary series narrates the multifaceted stories of its ultra-rich characters— the charisma, ingenuity, passion, flamboyance, corruption and barbarity. Some might say it tiptoes on the edge of sympathising with the villain, but for its fascinating portrayal of both financial fraud and human nature, it deserves a watch.

THE SOCIAL DILEMMA: Moving seamlessly between narrative and fact, this documentary attempts to explain the seemingly benign mess that social media is— a nexus of the human need to stay in touch, profit-seeking companies, and the fragile psyche of its teenaged 'user' base. Its horrifying accuracy and attention to detail make for a gripping ninety minutes.

TRIAL 4: We see a vividly intricate account of the cruelty of the trial meted out to 19-year-old black man Sean Ellis, for the murder of a white police officer. With its moving depiction of one who lost twenty-two years of his life in prison, and the law and politics of a city fractured by racism, 'Trial 4' will strike a chord with you, despite its long running time of eight hours.

-Kavyini Garodia and Shiveka Bakshi, 11

EDITORIAL BOARD

Anivartin Daga, Anirudh Vats, Sumaya Beri, Sara Jayakumar, Tvisha Jerath, Advaita Sehgal, Siddhant Nagrath, Shyla Upadhyay, Daksayani Chandra, Jehan Vir Singh Bhandal, Arshya Gaur, Anahita Kukreja, Shiveka Bakshi, Manan Ahuja, Kavyini Garodia, Prakriti Mahajan, Prithvi Oak, Sanaa Sharma, Vedika Bagla

Editor - Reana Soni

Send all articles/suggestions to newsletter@vasantvalley.org | Online issue available at www.vasantvalley.org