

Vasant Valley

January, 2013

T O D A Y

SCHOOL WATCH

Jayanti Jha, Sukanya Joshi, Vrinda Puri, Saumya Goel and Pia Kochar were selected by Delhi Football Association for representing Delhi in the National Football Tournament? To be held at Pune, from 13th January to 23rd January 2013

52nd Delhi State Gymnastics held at I.G. Stadium I.T.O. 19th - 23rd December 2012:
Under 12 year Category: Aadya Singhania was awarded 2nd in Ribbon

Under 17 year Category: The team comprising of Ishita Malhotra, Tanvi Duggal and Aakanksha Bajaj came 3rd.

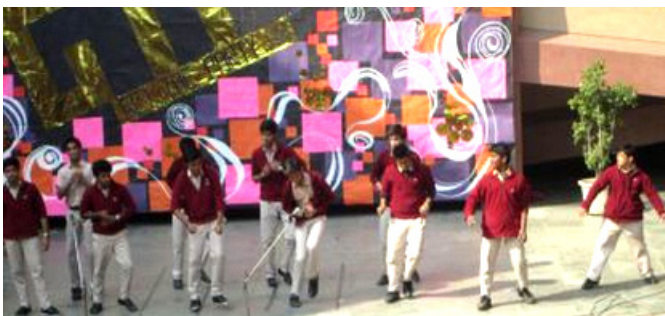


CONGRATULATIONS!!

"The Batch of 2013 has always been one step ahead of us; setting the standard, paving our way. They have not just been our seniors, but our mentors, our role models and most importantly, our friends."



Batch of 2013: "Suit Up"



Farewell Class Act

To You, With Love

"Saying goodbye isn't the hard part. It's what we let go off that's tough"

It was the end of another year for some, the end of school for others and more so, the end of an exhausting week for the freshly sworn in batch of class 12. Beneath the glossy banners, flawless descriptions, and smoothly executed skits - was pure chaos. With innovative and (seemingly) exciting ideas in our heads, we started off the preparations, determined, and maybe overly so. There was a tradition to be carried forward, and we had big, stylish (like the batch, themselves) shoes to fill. We also had the pressure of making the show bigger, brighter, funnier, and more scandalous than it had ever been before.

The task was monumental, and definitely not easy and seemed near impossible, with merely three days left at hand. Our carefully planned ideas fell apart in no time. Every effort to write a description or a play turned into a nostalgic recapitulation. Arguments ranged from being mildly contentious to nearly homicidal (the much disputed God's gift to Children). It wasn't easy, but despite the endless drama and bickering, somewhere along the way we succeeded in reminding one another that this wasn't about us - it was about them. And that's when it all fell together. Whether it was the tireless art group, the boys with their self-choreographed and flabbergastingly good dances or the creative minds who wrote the award descriptions; every individual disregarded his or her own comfort, sacrificed enjoyment (not to mention sleep) and concentrated solely on making the show a success. THAT's when it turned magical. That's when we achieved what we had aimed for, to put the "good" back in good-bye. The Batch of 2013 has always been one step ahead of us; setting the standard, paving our way. They have not just been our seniors, but our mentors, our role models and most importantly, our friends. It is difficult to describe this heterogenous yet unified set of amazing people in just a few words. Each individual is special, and each one different from the other. From the quiet lot who prefer staying together, to the shutterbugs who are always either taking pictures or in them. From the charmed ones with their gorgeous shoes and bags, to the boys who can't get their feet off the field (or their hands off each other). They cheered and applauded our performances, "ooh-ed" and "aah-ed" as we sprayed salt on sore wounds and beamed and blushed at their awards and descriptions.

As the class act neared its end, a wave of harmony swept through their entire batch as they commenced with a new enthusiasm their signature clap, signifying the perfect end of a perfect farewell (or so we hope) for a truly perfect batch. The change from seeing them everyday after class, of sharing space with them in the late line, of playing football with them, of gossiping with them, or simply being with them, is a change that none of us are ready to accept. Dancing arm in arm, as they dazzled the dancefloor in their saris and tuxedos, we realized how much they belonged here. In this school. With us. It also signified the beginning of the end. And as we all know, endings call for goodbyes. Problem is, we aren't ready to say ours.

Vasudha Dixit, 12

Nah, too Mainstream

Independent thinking is taking the world by storm, and with it comes the desire to be unique and one of a kind. Trailing not too far behind is the concept of 'being a hipster'. And I'm not talking about shaggy looking people from the mid sixties donning bell-bottoms and over sized peace signs. A new era of 'Hipsterism' has begun. They dress in vintage inspired fashions, sporting a slightly edgy look, and are often extreme. Grand plastic ray-bans shield their eyes, whether their eyesight is failing or not.



"Anything that is new and happening is off limits; they keep away from the mainstream"

Being hipster is mainly a state of mind, and it's all about individuality. Hipsters shy away from the latest trends, and prefer to revert a more retro way of living. Anything that is new and happening is off limits. In other words, they keep away from the mainstream. But here's where the irony comes in. What they don't realise, is that Hipsterism is growing into a trend itself! So kudos to individuality and uniqueness but truth be told, they're just falling prey to what they hate the most without seeing the bigger picture.

Kaamya Sharma, 9



Top 10 Movies to Look Forward To in 2013

1. A Good Day to Die Hard – Releasing: *February 14*-Genre: Action – Bruce Willis, Jai Courtney and Mary Elizabeth Winstead.
2. Scary Movie 5 – Releasing: *April 12*-Genre: Horror, Comedy, Parody – Ashley Tisdale, Erica Ash and Simon Rex.
3. Iron Man 3 – Releasing: *May 3* – Genre: Superhero – Robert Downey Jr., Ben Kingsley and Gwyneth Paltrow.
4. Star Trek : Into Darkness – Releasing : *May 17*–Genre: Science fiction, Action – Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto and Zoe Saldana.
5. The Hangover : Part 3 – Releasing : *May 24*– Genre: Comedy – Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Zach Galifianakis.
6. Man of Steel – Releasing: *June 14* –Genre: Superhero – Henry Cavill, Amy Adams and Michael Shannon.
7. World War Z – Releasing: *June 31* –Genre: Post- apocalyptic, Horror – Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos and James Badge Dale.
8. Despicable Me 2 – Releasing: *July 3* – Genre: 3D Computer Animated, Comedy – Steve Carell, Russell Brand and Miranda Cosgrove.
9. Percy Jackson : Sea of Monsters – Releasing: *August 16* –Genre: Fantasy – Logan Lerman, Alexandra Daddario and Douglas Smith
10. The Hobbit : The Desolation of Smaug – Releasing: *December 13* – Genre: Epic, Fantasy, Adventure – Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen and Richard Armitage

Aakanksha Jadhav, 11

Seven Shades of United



A deafening cheer goes up through the crowd at Old Trafford as “the fifth Beatle”, George Best- one of the greatest players who ever played for Manchester United, walks onto the field donning the very first number seven jersey. ‘Maradona good, Pele better, George Best’ is a quote often used to describe the charismatic player’s football brilliance. He scored 181 goals in his short but successful stint with the Red Devils. Then came Bryan Robson. Captain Marvel is the most revered captain in the history of the club and had the longest-ever career as the captain. If someone was looking for a multi-faceted player, with skills not only as a mid-fielder but also as a striker, a good header of the ball and someone who could pass well, he was the man.

It is said that when you're down and out a Good Samaritan comes along to re-invent your stature, like a phoenix rising from its ashes. A true ‘Devil’ in disguise, Eric Cantona, revived Manchester United as a footballing force and enjoyed that iconic status. However, Cantona was more in the news for his eccentricities rather than scoring goals. He had a short temper and was often in the legal fray for either accosting a referee or kicking the opposing team’s player. A controversial but legendary Cantona was the driving force for United in the five seasons he played, out of which four times Manchester emerged victorious. The next player to be added to the diadem of Manchester was David Beckham followed by the ‘Baby-face Assassin’ and a heart-throb for a million girls across the globe, Cristiano Ronaldo. Both of them proved to be great assets to the escalation of United of being the best football club ever.

All these players were game changers in the history of the club as well as pioneers of world football. **There was something that bound all of them together, something that is the living legacy of Manchester United- their number SEVEN jerseys.** This jersey has received invariably a cult status and the honour of wearing a number seven jersey is surreal.

However, the seventh person to wear a number seven jersey, Antonio Valencia has drawn a lot of flak from football critics who feel that he isn't worthy or deserving enough of wearing the legendary jersey. Valencia hasn't shown his true talents claimed by long standing manager, Sir Alex Ferguson who currently happens to be in his 70's (another uncanny connection to 7!). Being a United fan, I truly hope to see a turn of events for Valencia and him doing justice to the jersey that has had a major role in shaping Manchester United into the kind of team it is today. The question is- Will number seven continue to weave its magic for United? Only time will tell...



Kamya Yadav, 9

The Indo-Pak Debate

On the 11th of January this year, on a platform provided by the Debating Society of India, eminent figures from Pakistan and India fought with their words on the motion "Engagement between members of civil society is by far the most important factor in promoting lasting peace between India and Pakistan". There were eight speakers from India and Pakistan, including Mr. Mani Shankar Iyer, Mr. Wajahat Khan and Mr. Kabir Bedi. The debate was moderated by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, the Minister of State for Human Resource Development.

The proponents of the motion put forward the argument that the State isn't proactive in coming up with solutions and that civil society can generate much better ideas. On the other hand, the opponents made a strong argument by bringing out the fact that not everyone in civil society is capable of and wants peace between the countries; the countries have enough extremists who hamper the peace process and the government is the body that can actually ensure peace.



The speakers managed to keep the audience quite engaged with their wit and their words. Surprisingly the debate was quite heated, and the debaters got their point across smoothly and effectively.



Mani Shankar Aiyer

Javed Jabbar

Shashi Tharoor

The speakers managed to keep the audience quite engaged with their wit and their words. Quite surprisingly the debate was quite heated and the debaters got their point across smoothly and effectively. At the end of the debate, there was a question-answer session where the audience brought out perspectives which the debaters had left out.

Such platforms allow for the friendly exchange of thought on core issues regarding two bickering neighbors. There is a multitude of rampant issues between India and Pakistan and unless constructive suggestions are put forward in consensus from both sides, the situation between the two states will only worsen. I believe such forums of exchange are the root of a peaceful future.

Shreyas Kadaba, 12



Song Names Translated

Party Rock Anthem: पार्टी पत्थर गान

Wild Ones: जंगली

Call Me Maybe: शायद मुझे फोन करना

International Love: अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्यार

Chasing the Sun: सूरज का पीछा करते हुए

Gangnam Style: नदी के दक्षिण में रहने वालों की शैली

Cooler Than me: मुझसे भी ठंडा

I Knew You Were Trouble: मुझे पता था कि तुम मुसीबत हो

Cough Syrup: खासी की दवाई

Don't you worry Child: बच्चे चिन्ता मत करो

Turning Tables : पलटती हुई मेजें

Locked Out of Heaven: स्वर्ग के बाहर बंद



कुम्भ के मेले में...

इलाहाबाद में पूरे दुनिया में जाने-माने कुम्भ मेला धूम-धाम से मनाया जाता है। यह मेला हमेशा से ही लोगों के लिए आकर्षण का एक केंद्र रहा है। यहाँ पर नागा साधु तो आते ही हैं साथ ही दुनिया भर से पर्यटक भी आते हैं। कुम्भ का मेला 12 भालों में एक बार ही लगता है। यह संसार का एकमात्र मेला है जहाँ लोग धार्मिक कार्यों के लिए एकत्र होते हैं। इलाहाबाद के संगम के तट पर यह मनाया जाता है। ऐसा माना जाता है - मकर संक्रांति और पौष पशुपति के दिन यहां स्नान करना प्राप्ति होता है। इस कारण स्नान के लिए दुनिया भर के यात्री आते हैं और स्नान करके पुण्य प्राप्ति के लिए दुआएं करते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार मेले को सम्पन्न कराने के लिए पुख्ता सुरक्षा का इंतजाम करते हैं जिससे कि दुर्घटना होने पर तुरन्त उद्धार पर नियंत्रण किया जा सके।

यह मेला हमेशा से ही लोगों के लिए आकर्षण का एक केंद्र रहा है।



नूर दीवारा 9 c

The Day I Would Like To Abolish

I hate Saturdays more than anything. Even insect bites are better than this day. I am going to abolish it. On this day I have to wake up early morning and go for my soccer lesson. When I come home, not even a breath, and straight away I go for my guitar class. My fingers hurt but my teacher does not let me take a breath. I finally go home-shampoo time-this day is totally exhausting. I would rather have two Sundays because I am free to play games or watch television and have dinner at McDonalds.

Sabeer Singh Bhullar IV – A

Tuesday, not again! It just came and it's come again to trouble me! On this day my house is filled with terrible smells coming from the kitchen. Its the smell of all healthy, but horrible – tasting home made vegetables! As the clock strikes seven, my heart starts beating fast, because its dinner time. Sometimes I even day dream of my mom popping huge veggies into my mouth! My sister teases me on this day because usually I get a scolding from my mom for not eating right. I wish I could abolish Tuesdays and add a Monday because my sister has to take seven rounds of the tennis court. And I would love to tease her twice a week!

Ayzra Dang IV – B

First Day Of School

I was really happy to go to a higher class. I was a little nervous too. I made so many friends. I was excited that I would learn new things. I am very happy to be with Ms. Anju Bhatia.

Inayat Passi III – A

I am very excited because I am in a new class. I like English class the most. We did a G. K Quiz and made new friends. We also made new partners in Technology lab. We have new teachers too.

Jia Mittal III – B

The Tiranga Food Festival

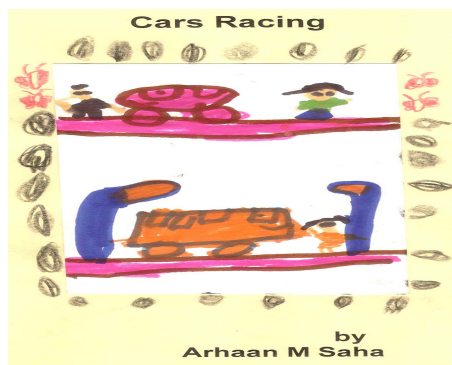


The Tiranga Food Festival was so much of fun. We learned a lot about our national flag. The colour saffron signifies courage, white stands for peace and green stands for prosperity. We even saw a remarkable presentation on our constitution which gave us a fair idea about our rights and duties. Each of us wrote about one state of India and its food. Our alcove was filled with Tiranga streamers. The best of all was the cooking we did where we made a delicious tricolour pizza and ate mouthwatering barfi. The Tiranga Food Festival was a great experience. JAIHIND!

Manya Malhotra V - B

Arhaan's First Book

This is Bucky. And she is the slowest



car. This is Giggle and he is the fastest car. Bucky is also Giggles best friend. One day they were taking a drive. Bucky was looking everywhere but she couldn't find him. By mistake he took the wrong way. Finally she found him in the train station. He was buying chocolate ice-cream. Bucky said thank you and they went home.



Arhaan M Saha II – B

If The World Was Flat...

If the world was flat, how would it be? This question always, baffles me- Children love to dig a hole to reach China is their goal But, if the world was flat, how would it be? Would they fall off and never be seen? If the world was flat, shouldn't the water end, if it's drained at the final bend, Where would it drop to, I wouldn't see This question always baffles me. If the world was flat, Newton couldn't have found That an apple would fall to the ground. No gravitational pull to keep us bound All things would just float around. If the world was flat, what would that mean? There would be no horizon to be seen. Would the sun's rays only gleam? Would there be no night or equator to be seen? May be we would all be as dark as beans For that I wouldn't be so keen If the world was flat how would it be? This question kind of scares me!!!

Uday Dabas V- A

If The Earth Was Flat
We would dive into space
We would float all around
And would definitely be amazed!
If the earth was flat
There would be no change of seasons
The earth would not be tilted
That is the reason!
If the earth was flat
Water would spill into space
All the sea animals gone!
That would be such a disgrace.
We would freeze into icicles
Or burn to crisps in the hot sun
There would be no wind or tides,
I don't think that's any fun.
If the earth was flat
It would be god's dinner table
Do you know if this is true
Or it is just a fable?

Jai Kapoor V- A

HOROSCOPES 2013



Aries – You will do well academically, but only because you made an account on Merit Nation, and not because you've actually become smart. You will make new friends, but they will be imaginary, so don't try and save a seat for them in class otherwise people will just make fun of you more than they already do.



Taurus – Some mystic power will draw you to Sister's room several times this year, and no, this power isn't Digene. However, don't spend too much time there because the new blankets might cause you a rash on your face. But hey, if you're lucky, that might actually make you look better. Start every morning at 5am by performing the Crank Dat Soulja Boy dance in reverse...it will do wonders for your skin!



Gemini – Say goodbye to spending Friday nights with your parents watching Kaun Banega Crorepati, and say hello to riding roller coasters at FunCity (you daredevil, you). Your grades might slip but don't worry about that. If you feel like everyone constantly wants to hang out with you, all you need to tell them is "AIN'T NOBODY GOT TIME FOR THAT"



Cancer – You are going to be the person that everyone loves to hate this year. True to your name, you will be like a disease that infiltrates through everyone's sense of joy and fun. So don't feel bad if you're not invited to any parties, that's not because everyone hates you or anything, it's just because you're boring.



Leo – You are on fire this year! 2013 will be the year that you will finally be free of all that nasty acne, so you don't have to make excuses for watching those Proactiv commercials on TV anymore. You will prosper academically and will even ace Speed Math once by getting 11/20, which is a whole lot better than your past scores.



Virgo – You will be spending most of your mornings in the late line this year, so it is best to get on Mrs. Shukla and Mr. Joseph's good side. Eating too many ladoos on Independence Day will cause an unexpected accident which will involve a lot of toilet paper, so be careful.



Libra – Your year looks bright, but that's probably just because you'll be tapping into your creative potential and dressing like Psy from Gangnam style. You will be the object of everyone's laughter this year, but don't get too happy; they're not laughing with you, they're laughing at you.



Sagittarius – You will be very productive this year and finally do all your Math homework on time, instead of doing it in those 5 minutes before assembly. Venus is in your 9th house, which means that love is definitely not in the cards and you will most likely end up alone and bitter with nothing but your cats.



Capricorn – On the whole, your year looks quite depressing. If you're studying for the SAT, stop...because even though it's not possible to fail an aptitude test, you definitely will. I know you're a Harry Potter fan, but it has to stop because your letter from Hogwarts is not arriving any time soon.



Aquarius – You will have a great year! You will stand up for things no one else believes in (like singing in assembly, etc.) and will make sure that you make a mark. Everyone will look up to you, so it's probably a good idea to get a better haircut because the present one makes you look like a member of The Addams Family.



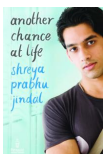
Pisces – This year will bring you closer to someone, but I'm pretty sure they're as weird as you are, so don't expect great things. Inspired by your zodiac, you will soon discover yourself and realize that you belong to the wrong species, but will learn to cope with it by watching reruns of Finding Nemo.



Scorpio – There is so much in store for you this year...just kidding. This year will be the most boring year of your life. You will spend all of it in front of the TV and develop a deep bond of attachment with your couch. However, things look interesting towards the end of the year. You might start becoming more social and actually make quite a few friends... oh wait, nope... you're still going to have a boring year, so embrace it..

Sharanya Thakur, 12

The next issue of newsletter will bring back 'Teacher of the Week' Email your suggestions to newsletter@vasantvalley.org or like us on facebook and cast your vote for who you'd like to hear from first!



BOOKS TO LOOK OUT FOR
Another Chance at Life- Shreya P Jindal
Chanakyas New Manifesto - Pavan K Varma



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