

Vasant Valley

March, 2014

T O D A Y

HOW do YOU feel?

Whether it's India's 29th state, pepper spray in the Lok Sabha or more AAP drama, these past few weeks have been more than the Indian citizen can digest. Newspapers and TV channels have shared their opinion, now it's time for some Vasant Valley students to share theirs.

Fluttering in the Breeze or Gone with the Wind?

Ex. Chief Minister of Delhi Mr. Arvind Kejriwal has been the talk of the town for the short stint of 49 days of his swearing in to his abrupt resignation. The entire country is thick in the middle of insight and debates whether his intentions against corruption were true or whether it was a publicity stunt to gain emotional support and concentrate on his mandate for the Lok Sabha elections. I however feel that picking either or in this matter is redundant.

Who cares whether he did it for personal gain to govern all of India instead of just Delhi! The fact is he has thoroughly exposed both the Congress and the BJP to the people with his candid rhetoric's in his letter to Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi. Launching an FIR against Mukesh Ambani and openly asking for clarifications on campaign funds, transportation, and the predicament with gas prices have rattled the two parties into a rather quiet shell.

The Congress and BJP united against the both taloned and toothy Jan Lokpal Bill proposed by AAP, by suggesting approval at the center. He decided that if he required the consent of the center, he would attempt to become the center itself, if that's what it takes, a stand I admire.

"Clearly behind the muffler and perpetual cough lies a rather astute and strategically sound mind."

Kejriwal has accomplished more than any other CM in 49 days as that of one presiding for 5 years. Arvind Kejriwal can sleep without a heavy conscience, for in the larger scheme of things the greater goal, is still in focus.. While Kejriwal left office in a martyr and self sacrificing manner, his straightforward attack on Ambani, Modi and Gandhi proves that he isn't a flame in the wind, but a fluttering flag that changed course to be seen in a different light, support towards him seems almost inevitable and necessary for reform to our glorious nation, buzzing with anticipation for change.

Ananya Gupta, 10 CBSE



JUSTICE FOR NIDO TANIA

We are living in India, but we don't know whether we are actually living in India or not." Serena Nanda writes about the racism that exists within our country.

On the 29th of January 18 year old Nido Tania, the son of Arunachal Pradesh MLA Nido Pavitra, was brutally



beaten up post an altercation that occurred between Nido Tania and a shopkeeper. The shopkeeper and seven others present at the shop allegedly physical appearance. Irked by the crowd, Tania broke a glass item in the shop, but paid Rs.7000 as compensation. However, another altercation broke out and Nido Tania was attacked with iron rods and beaten up. Following this incident, protests have been carried out at Lajpat Nagar by students from the Northeast and the cause has gained momentum from the masses through social networking sites. Scores of people with raised placards and slogans took to the streets demanding an anti racism law to ensure the safety of the Northeastern population in New Delhi and justice.

Serena Nanda, 10 CBSE



29 states?

"What does the future hold for the 29th state? Noor Dhingra talks about how Telangana came to be."

Last week, several posters of K Chandrasekhar Rao, the leader of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) leader sprung up all over Hyderabad, wishing him a happy birthday. The day after his birthday, the Lok Sabha passed the historic Telangana Bill. The Telangana Rebellion was a peasant revolt supported by the Communists. It took place in the former princely state of Hyderabad between 1946 and 1951. Starting in 1951, the CPI shifted to a more moderate strategy of seeking to bring communism to India within the framework of Indian democracy. Telangana crossed a major hurdle on the route to becoming India's 29th state with Parliament approving the bill to divide Andhra Pradesh in the face of repeated adjournments and continuous disruptions. It was on February 18, when Rajya Sabha deputy chair P J Kurien finally declared "the bill is passed", setting off celebrations among Telangana supporters in the House and in central hall where Lok Sabha MPs from the region crowded around TV sets.



"It was political posturing to demand the credit for the formation of the new state."

It's now party time in Telangana, not just to celebrate the formation of India's 29th state but also because every party - the TRS, the Congress and the BJP - is vying to position itself as the one that deserves the crown of credit and the votes of the people for giving a new state.

Noor Dhingra, 10 CBSE

25th INTERHOUSE Track and Field Meet '14



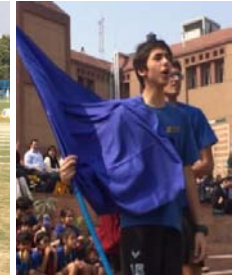
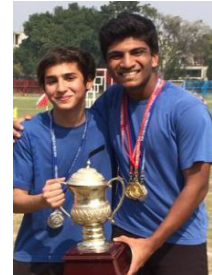
After breaking Green House's long running winning streak, the Blue House prefects share their thoughts

"I can't express my feelings I've barely been captain for 2 weeks and we've won it!"

- Shantanu Puri,
Blue House Captain"

"I'm really proud of my house and beating Red House felt good." -

Ronak Bansal, Blue House Prefect



11-12 Girls 4x100 Relay

ATHELETE OF THE year

The athlete of the year went to Ishwari Dasgupta from Blue House. Including relay, she has won 5 golds.

"Winning Best Athlete was the most incredible feeling ever"

- Ishwari Dasgupta, Blue House



7-8 Boys 200m



9-10 Boys 200m

"We, the athletes of Vasant Valley School swear that we will take part in the 25th Inter House Track and Field Meet in loyal competition, respecting the regulations which govern them and participate in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the honour of our school and the glory of sports"

An Indomitable Spirit



Yet another sports day, and again, yellow house bags first place from the bottom. Right after sports day, someone came up to me, and said

'Don't be sad, yellow house is known for being happy despite being losers every year'. So we lost on sports day, again. That doesn't make us 'losers.'

So we lost on sports day, again. That doesn't make us 'losers'. Our talent just lies elsewhere. We may not have the fastest runners or the strongest throwers. Why is it that today, 'winning' is everything?



Yellow house is not made of 'winners' if winning is defined by holding up a trophy. According to me, as long as we're happy, we're winners. Irrespective of whether we win or lose, yellow house always has the loudest voices, cheering its members on and supporting them no matter what accompanied by the best sportsmanship spirit. That's what counts.

"What we do have are amazing singers, graceful dancers, imaginative and creative artists and writers and kind people."

20 years from now, most of us will forget which house won which competition in what year, but what we won't forget about is the time we spent preparing for the competitions, I for one won't ever forget this sports day. What I will remember is cheering with my house holding up the flag and proudly leading my house to wherever we find happiness.

Jahanvi Srinivasan, 12

“People get demotivated when they lose, however, they need to know that they were the chosen few out of all the people who tried out.”-

Serena Bhullar, Yellow House

RESULTS	
BLUE HOUSE	315 POINTS
RED HOUSE	312 POINTS
GREEN HOUSE	296 POINTS
YELLOW HOUSE	258 POINTS



“It was very pressurizing, but I overcame the fear and ran a great race.” -

Reyhan Seth, Green House

Next year when I am in class 12, the trophy will be mine -

Devbir Dhaliwal, Green House

“I’m a medalist. I got a gold for gossiping.” -

Krishna Singh, Red House

This sports day has been the best one yet and next year I hope to beat my tally of 3 medals which I achieved this year

- Suryavir Dawar, Red House



Winning the 200m was unbelievable.” - Uday Sahni



Memorable Quotes

“I am very proud of Red House. Hopefully Red will win it next year. I love Ronak and Jaisal. All these wins 4 Feja...”

Gurbaz Khera, Games Captain

One of the best days of my life. Even though red lost I know that the spirit is alive! Jeetega bhai Jeetega Red House jeetega. Could not have been possible without the perfect prefect Isha Gupta.”

Akshay Sharan, Red House Captain



“It was an amazing experience. Whether you win or lose doesn’t matter.”

- Tanvi Bahl, Blue House

“The music was so good this Sports Day! It really pumped up everyone’s spirits.”

-Deeya Biswas, Red House

The Last Lap

I’ll never forget my first medal and first race on sports day, it filled me with excitement and a sense of great pride. My friends and family were so proud of me and I was proud of myself for what I had accomplished. Since then I have tried to keep adding more medals to my tally and I’ve won the coveted Athlete Of The Year award on 4 occasions, a few of my most proud moments. This day is what I really look forward to in the school year and the thrill of the race is what drives me forward. Apart from the throwing there is a certain of love and attachment to your house and cheering for your house is one of the main components of the day. This year was my last and it was something special. I was filled with emotion during the march past and a tear was brought to my eye while saying the oath with all the sports prefects and house captains. Winning the relay this year was one of my favourite sports day moments. I will always think of this day every time I hear “infinity” or every time someone was “shalala”. The clashing of medals against one another will always be my favourite sound and the feeling of receiving medals in front of my school will always be one of my greatest achievements.

“When it all was over I looked back and reflected on the memories this day has given me over the years and it brought a few laughs, a few tears of joy and a huge smile on my face.”

Thank you Vasant Valley, for giving us the chance to bond with our houses and give us a sense of unity. And thank you for treating all of us as your own. This one, I’m sure, **the batch of 2015**, will never forget.

Inayat Gill, 12

ट्रेक एंड फील्ड मीट 2014

इक्कीस फरवरी 2014 को हम ढाण नीले पीले ँ हरे बँगों में षट गए और पूरे जोश के साथ मैदान पर ‘ट्रेक एंड फील्ड मीट 2014’ के लिए इक्कठा हो गए। मार्च पारत के ँक्त ढाण लोग अपने ढमूह के खिलाडियों के लिए जोर जोर ढे चिल्ला रहे थे और ढाणके चहनों पर खुशी झलक रही थी। श्रीमान पांडे की आवाज को सुनकर ढाणके मन में जीत की कामना पैदा हो गई। ढेस के आद पदक की गूँज का आनन्द लेते हुए पूरा विद्यालय ढमझो खुशी का एक लहर जैसा था। षाष षैठकर षाष यही प्रार्थना कर रहे थे कि इस आर जीत उक्की हो। झण षलू हाऊस को पता चला कि 2014 के विजेता ढाच मुच पह ही थे तो उनके सुख ँ खुशी का कोई ठिकाना नहीं था। षलू हाऊस के कप्तान तथा अन्य ढदरय के हाथ में ट्रोफी था और चहरो पे मुस्कान। अंत में हम ढाष ढाष्ट्रीयगान के लिए खड़े हो गए। इसी गर्व ढे और इसी प्रतिष्ठा ढे हुइ ट्रेक एंड फील्ड मीट की ढमाप्ती।

ढान्या पावा 10 A



2010

2011

2012

PREFECT Council 2014

“With great power, comes great responsibility”- which sums up what it means to be a prefect. To be a leader, to be someone teachers and students can depend on and to work towards changing and bettering an institution of which we are all extremely proud to represent. So what makes this year's prefects so special?



Indraneel Roy

"Indraneel is someone who is really dependable and someone everyone can count on. Besides the fact that he excels in every field, you can go to him with all your problems and not only will he listen but he will also provide you with solutions to that problem."

HEAD Boy



Ananya Jain

"The best thing about Ananya is how relatable she is. She's easygoing and fun to be around, but she's also hardworking and talented. She's a Head Girl who can lead by example, by making being an all-rounder look effortless."

HEAD Girl

WILL I GET IT? WILL I not?

A lot of us tend to put all our hopes on something, be it anything, a goal, a dream, an outcome. But when that something drifts away from our reach, we feel as if a part of ourselves escapes us too. We feel deceived, cheated and despaired, as we watch our capabilities to hope dissolve in thin air. t. So what happens when that dream is shattered? When you don't get what you want, and watch 25 other kids bask in the glory that you wish you had?



To desire to walk around with confidence as the light reflects off your badge is a common one amongst the students of Vasant Valley. But you need to ask yourself where that desire stems from? Does it stem from the hunger for status – which if the case, then you really need to re-evaluate your priorities – or from a genuine aspiration to create something of value? Because if it is the latter, being a prefect or not has no role to play at all, as it all lies in you standing up and creating what you envisioned for the school and others around you.

“You don't need a badge to allow you to materialize your ideas and aspirations; you just need the self-motivation and courage to leave a mark.”

You're probably tired of hearing the same “it's alright not to be a proud owner of that badge” talk, but hopefully what should make a difference this time is that, I was someone who not only had expectations to be a prefect, but had never even given weightage to the possibility of not becoming one. I usually got what I wanted – grades without swatting away my books, admiration without doing much to earn it – and so, it had never occurred to me that I would not be a prefect. But you should use that loss to motivate you to work harder. Use that negativity to drive you to achieve more than what you would have if you became a prefect.

This article is not convince you that being a prefect is not worthy of desire, but it's to tell you that badge or no badge, your talents, capabilities, and skills will always be intact, and nothing can rid you of that. Its how you deal with a negative situation that really determines who you are and what qualities you possess, so if next year, this time, is not the brightest time of your life, remember to pick yourself up and show them what you're made of.

Rhea Khanna, 12



Armaan Grewal

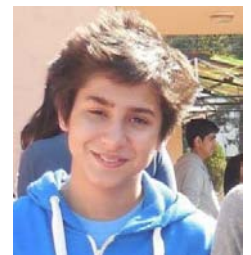
Armaan is a natural leader. He's always coming up with innovative ideas to better the school. He is able to handle all situations easily and is always there to stick up for the members of his house. Armaan can make sure the work is not only done-but well done



GREEN House Captain

Shantanu Puri

“Shantanu is the perfect person to carry the Blue House legacy forward. He's smart and extremely responsible. He'll be nice to all his juniors and he'll make sure Blue House stays on top this year. He's a also a really good and competent leader.”



BLUE House Captain

Akshay Sharan



“Never has there been a captain that has so much house spirit. Akshay is the most dedicated captain and someone who truly loves his house. He takes pride in being a member of Red House and keeps everyone motivated.”

Red House Captain



Jahanvi Srinivasan

“Jahanvi is the most person determined person I know. She works hard and always strives to be the best. Her positive attitude is exactly what a house like Yellow needs. She is extremely approachable and Yellow is lucky to have her.”

Yellow House Captain

Besides these, there are 19 other amazing prefects who will always be there to make sure you are quiet in assembly and in class act and to make sure you have a great year ☺

On a cold, foggy morning in February, I had my hopes up to be the Sports Captain. Mrs. Krishnan walked on the centre stage with a page in her hand. "The list of prefects this year are..." she began. My hopes went up. But I was not the Sports Captain. I was disheartened. I thought to myself it doesn't matter; I will try in class twelve. But then Mrs. Krishnan announced my name as Head Boy. I was stunned. At home, I had a party with cake, balloons, samosas, and jalebis. My family made a poster saying HEAD BOY ZINDABAD!-



Prithvi Mehta

There was a special joint assembly that morning. I was secretly hoping I might be a prefect. I was nervous. My heart was beating so hard that I was sure that everybody could hear it. When my name was called for Green House Captain, I was amazed. Your emotions hardly ever change that rapidly, but mine did that day—from nervous to excited. That was a day I'll never forget. I had many people congratulating me. When I got home, I spilled the beans to my Dad, as my Mom already knew. They were really proud of me. My mother had even baked me a cake that was shaped like a house, iced with green frosting. When I got back to school the next day I had calmed down a little. I'm having lots of fun being on the top of the Junior School.



Sophie Stepanian

It was such a proud moment for me when I became Games Captain of junior school VVS. I also felt happy for my friends who became prefects. Before the announcement I had crossed all my fingers and wished to become Games Captain, as I did. I knew there would be many responsibilities allotted to me, like being a role model for the other children, so that they feel proud of having a Games Captain like me. Since then I have behaved like a good prefect and have been enjoying the feeling ever since.



Rohan Malhotra

I was very excited when Mrs. Krishnan called out the 'prefects' names as I was hoping that my name would be called out too. It was a wonderful feeling, when I stepped on to the stage as the Games Vice Captain of Junior School, I was filled with joy, after all, I had wished to be one of the prefects some day and that moment had finally arrived. I thank God for this honour and all my friends and teachers for their support. I will try my best to rise up to their expectations.



Sarah Eva Khosla

On Monday, 10th February—when Mrs. Krishnan came on stage and started to announce the prefects I started to get nervous. The only expectation I had was Yellow House Captain. First went sports captain, then vice sports captain and so on. Then the moment it came to the house captains, I closed my eyes and tried not to shake with nervousness. When it was announced 'Yellow House Captain-Sabeer Singh Bhullar', I was relieved. I ran to the stage happily. I called my father and he was really happy and proud of me. My whole day went well as many people congratulated me. I hope my house gets better in the Track and Field Meet.



Sabeer Singh Bhullar

I had been eagerly waiting for the prefects to be announced ever since the first day of school. On tenth February the big day finally came. Anyone could have heard my heart beating as loud as a woodpecker pecks the tree. Mrs. Krishnan was standing on centre stage announcing the prefects... Blue House Captain... Green House Captain... Yellow House Captain. The moment the name of the Red House Captain was announced, my heart leapt up with joy. Nobody could have been happier than me at that moment. I was the Red House Captain! I was unreservedly gratified as I walked up the Centre Stage steps and stood with the other prefects. I will probably remember this moment forever and my emotions and feelings are tough to decide in words. I do feel nervous as I have a lot of responsibilities now. I want to thank my friends and family for their support.



Agastya Rattan Nashier

I can never ever forget 10th February 2014! As soon as I reached school I realised that we had a special assembly that day. How I wished I could be someone important. Was it going to be just a dream? It was, till the assembly song got over. You could have knocked me over with a feather when my name was called out as the Blue House Captain, Junior School. We all congratulated each other and hugged in joy. I called my mother to break the news to her. I was happy and she was happier. I can't wait to wear my house captain badge. I feel more responsible now and am very happy to be the chosen one.



Vedika Shrikhande

It is always exciting to win anything. But being elected a class rep is extra special because it is your peers who vote for you. It is a position of responsibility but it also is a measure of how popular one is amongst his/her classmates. I am stunned that so many people like me and are my friends. It's like I'm a normal person and then...poof...I'm the Class Rep! I heard many people voted for me because they told me themselves! So when my name was announced, it wasn't such a big surprise but it still felt really, really good. I am also curious about my responsibilities and I hope I don't let my classmates down. I'm sure it will be fun.



Vijit Mann

It was a cold Monday morning, as we all stood waiting for some announcements. Well, not just any but much awaited Prefect announcements. I had been anxiously waiting for it. So, fingers crossed, we all waited. Like a zour bomb exploding in my stomach, my expressions kept changing as the announcements began. I clapped for my friends and felt happy for them and yet was disappointed as I had failed to hear my name. I had reconciled to my fate of not being a part of the honoured prefect committee. And then, Ms. Krishnan said "Head Girl Arshya Gaur" I froze and then smiled. I felt proud and humbled at the faith all my teachers had placed in me and of the responsibilities that will follow.



Arshya Gaur

Man of the Hour

"Kamya Yadav concentrates on India's most recent pride and achievement, Satya Nadella."

India is making history each passing day, etching its name in golden words on the plaques of fame. In recent light, we have yet again proved our brilliance in the field of Information Technology with Satya Nadella becoming the new chief executive officer of Microsoft.

Hailing from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, Nadella graduated from Hyderabad Public School and Manipal Institute of Technology and completed higher education from University of Wisconsin and University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He has been working in Microsoft for the past twenty-two years and him taking the reins as the CEO was no surprise to those who knew of his expertise and experience. Soon after the announcement, immense pressure has begun to build

"The challenge that lies ahead of him is mainly to evolve Microsoft's existing business as well as reinvent its technology."



VVIQ

"What does 'obstreperous' mean?"

"When you take an obnoxious step and fall." - Deeya Biswas, 9

"Weird or complicated?" - Savar Kapur, 9 CBSE

"I don't know! Don't do this to me! I'm not a funny person, ok?" - Ashraya Harish, 9 CBSE

"Obstreperous? Something very stretchy, and long. Like you know, the bread dough? Wait, it can also be something frustrating, or very stiff." - Kaamya Sharma, 9 CBSE

"Constipated octopus." - Ananya Nair, Yashoda Jayal and Nitya Dhingra, 8

"Obstreperous" means noisy and difficult to control."

on the shoulders of Nadella who is taking over a major legacy of a \$243 billion company. The challenge that lies ahead of him is mainly to evolve Microsoft's existing business as well as reinvent its technologies to bring it forth into the mobile and cloud-centric markets. Nadella's insider information of Microsoft will help him understand the structure of the company, its working and the markets better but the lack of exposure to mobile-markets may also prove to be a detrimental factor.

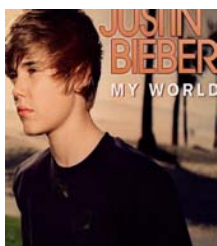
Saying this, all eyes are going to be on this man for the next few months as he establishes himself in the shoes of the likes of Bill Gates and hopefully, he'll take Microsoft to new heights!

Kamya Yadav, 9 CBSE

Top 10 Worst Songs Of All Time

There's Alternative, Indie, House, EDM, R&B etc. And then, there's this. One hit wonders truly in a league of their own. I'd wax more eloquence, but these songs speak for themselves. Prepare to (not) be shocked!

1. **Baby- Justin Bieber:** A prime example of pop music in the 21st Century.
2. **Butterfly- Crazy Town:** The crowning glory of 2000.
3. **What Makes You Beautiful- One Direction:** Come on, this was expected.
4. **Who Let The Dogs Out- Baha Men:** Two words. Dogs barking. Over and over. Pretty obvious why it was such a success.
5. **The Fox- Ylvis:** It was actually "created to fail". Yeah, that totally happened.
6. **Friday- Rebecca Black:** Need I say more?
7. **Love Story- Taylor Swift:** Just no.
8. **Crazy Frog- Axel F:** Our first and last foray into "Eurodance". Yes, there's actually a genre for this.
9. **One Love- Blue:** A blast from the past. Sorry I reminded you.
10. **Bound 2- Kanye West:** The list would not be complete without this song. It epitomizes Kanye West's genius, really.



Sarina Mittal, 9 CBSE

SCHOOL WATCH

Results of Kavita Vachan Pratiyogita

Class 6

1st - Vedika Bagla

2nd - Varun Vir Kharb and Arav Kumar

3rd - Kabir Rebello and Shrijeet Kolley

Class 7

1st - Darinee Chandok and Amiya Kumar

2nd - Sehej Kaur and Amaaya Vijay Arora

3rd - Dhruv Rattan Nashier and Bhavya Mitra

Class 8

1st - Kabir Singh

2nd - Rabiya Gupta and Subiya Asad

3rd - Priyam Deka, Aryan Sadh and Saniya Sidhu

CONGRATULATIONS!

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