

# Vasant Valley *TODAY*

## DISMALAND

You ask yourself, "How can people be so ignorant?" That inner voice, that look of incredulity, is your defence mechanism talking. It is that detachment, that bubble that we are all guilty of living in.

It took a gut-wrenching photograph of a young Syrian boy, lying face down on the shore, to bring the refugee crisis into perspective. For every Aylan Kurdi, there are a thousand more children who exist behind the lens, their horrors gone unnoticed. More than 50% of the so-called "migrants" are below the age of eighteen. Each day, thousands more join the struggle to cross over into the borders of nations such as Germany and Hungary, attempting to flee the havoc back home.

*What is home?* For the half million Syrians, Afghans, Iraqis and Africans, the word ceases to have meaning.

What began as a civil war, in a far away region known as the Middle East became a condition ripe for the emergence of terrorist organisations such as the ISIS and al-Nusra Front. The government, the very leaders turned on their own people. Today, the crisis has reached its zenith, the high point from where there is no return. The crisis has been termed callously as a mass-migration, an influx of people seeking better economic opportunities and better standards of living. However, the reason for getting into boats to cross over turbulent seas, or undertaking treks across dangerous climes is not for a mere handout promised by the wealthy European nations. The sole motivation for these individuals putting themselves and their children in danger, is so that they can lead normal lives- free from guns, violence and death. It is to breathe life into a home again.

The problem occurring in Europe today is multi-faceted. It has complex and intertwined political, economic and social characteristics. While one country prepares to open its borders, another seeks to fortify itself to prevent the entrance of potential terrorist elements. Top leaders of the world scramble to make new policies, while organisations help accommodate new arrivals into camps. The situation is of utter chaos, a dismal land where dreams are narrowly escaping death, and chasing a life full of tentative promise.



The tempest that is this humanitarian crisis arose years ago, and continues to swell long after Aylan Kurdi. Hopelessness oozes out of the situation, a sense of despair we have not even begun to fathom. Inadvertently, we have made boundaries for ourselves, demarcations that dictate what is and isn't of relevance to us. It's a convenient approach, one that further immerses us in ignorance.

*Dismaland, a sinister twist to Disneyland, was a temporary art project organised by street artist Banksy, constructed in the seaside resort town of Weston-super-Mare in Somerset, England. Banksy says his now-closed Dismaland "bemusement park" will be dismantled and its parts will be shipped to Calais, France where they'll provide shelters for Europe's migrants flooding the continent.*

- Sarina Mittal, 11

### SCHOOL WATCH

#### Hindi Bhasha Gyan Pratiyogita

##### Class 7

1st - Armaan Gandhi  
2nd - Vedika Bagla  
3rd - Mokshya Wadhwa and Siya Garg

##### Class 8

1st - Ideka Dang  
2nd - Adya Jatia  
3rd - Bhavya Mitra, Basudev Jha and Aarusha Nirvan

##### Class 9

1st - Aditi Singh  
2nd - Abhijeet Aulakh  
3rd - Saniya Sidhu and Shohom R Dasgupta

##### Class 10

1st - Asees Kaur and Aanchal Mahajan  
2nd - Shrey Baid  
3rd - Akanksha Bajaj and Samridhi Hooda

#### 13th Delhi State Gymnastics Competition

Rhythmic Under 12 team - 1st

Artistic Under 10 A team - 1st

Artistic Under 10 B team - 2nd

Artistic Gymnastics Under 12 team - 1st

#### Sanskrit Shabd Gyan Pratiyogita

##### Class 8

1st - Sehej Kaur  
2nd - Raghav Taneja  
3rd - Darinee Chandok and Saisha Gupta

##### Class 7

1st - Vedika Bagla, Saana Sharma and Siya Garg  
2nd - Prithvi Ranjeet Oak  
3rd - Kabir Mario Dominic (Rebello) and Reana Soni

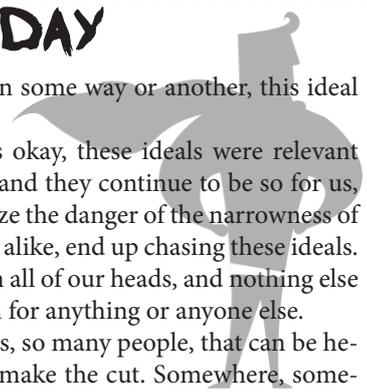
##### Class 6

1st - Katyayani Jha  
2nd - Aditya Garg, Arshya Gaur and Agastyaa Gupta  
3rd - Devaditya S Tomar, Anshuman Singh and Lakshyaa Aryaa

**Congratulations!**



# THE HIDDEN HEROES OF TODAY



We all have our heroes. People or characters that we look up to, and their qualities that we try to emulate. From times immemorial, the Greek and Roman heroes, the traditional warriors, have always been the ideal 'heroes'. From Aeneas to Hercules, from Jason to Achilles - all these heroes, still considered to be heroes today, had some things in common. These virtues, boxes that these heroes would tick, would make them



so; virtues such as courage, pride, nobility, honor, duty, bravery, chivalry, justice and magnificence. In fact, these ideals that make a hero, are very much entrenched in our popular culture today. The Prince Charming in Disney movies, saving the distressed princess from her castle or waking her up from her slumber as he rides in on his white horse, his character is based on these 'ideals' of heroism. So many mov-

ies, books, stories - follow, in some way or another, this ideal of heroism.

Some might say that this is okay, these ideals were relevant to the Greeks and Romans, and they continue to be so for us, right? Wrong. We must realize the danger of the narrowness of these ideals. Adults and kids alike, end up chasing these ideals. This idea of a hero is stuck in all of our heads, and nothing else will suffice, there is no room for anything or anyone else.

There are so many characters, so many people, that can be hero-like, but somehow don't make the cut. Somewhere, somehow, they don't fit into that ideal. So we discard of them, and forget to look at the virtues within those people that make them so very worthy, virtues that we too could learn from.

The truth is, we need our heroes. So why not broaden our horizons? Why not look at the women, the slaves, the discriminated, the oppressed? Why not look at ourselves, why not look around? Its time for us, especially in the world we live in today, to look beyond. To get rid of these rigid ideals, and expand them into an idea of a hero that is much more than just a noble man riding his horse coming to save the day. Of course, I'm all for Prince Charming and his majestic horse, but all I'm saying is that maybe we should give the others a chance. Its time we look for and accept the hidden heroes of our time - it might be good for us.

- Riya Kothari, 11

## Intangibility

*"Maybe you aren't living in the city you always thought you were living in."*

The trees you see outside your bay window aren't made of leaves and branches and wood and sap, but instead, of all the times you asked your parents to build you a treehouse while you sat in your room, fantasising. Maybe those flowers bloom in colours that exist only in your wildest daydreams. Maybe all those questions and thoughts combined, over the years, and shifted from the realms of intangibility to tactile objects.

Maybe you aren't living in the city you always thought you were living in. The buildings you see, while you walk down the streets, are measured not in feet or metres, but in hours and minutes and days of frustration, hard work, and panic. They are measured in the first few rays of dawn and the eerie tinges of twilight. *These buildings are not just buildings: they never were and they never will be.*



Maybe you aren't living in the city you always thought you were living in. Maybe its always hiding something from you. Maybe it shapes itself as you shape yourself. Maybe you will find your memories hanging like ornaments from the Christmas tree in the park, someday. Maybe you will find your deepest fears in the graffiti in an abandoned subway station.

*Maybe you live in your own world, and the city is just pure fabrication.*

- Noor Dhingra, 12

## Capsules of Culture

*"No language in the world can survive until the common man starts speaking it."*

The above mentioned lines have come into focus at a time when



the Indian government sparked a debate over the role of Sanskrit in the lives of the Indian people. This raging debate in India is to replace German with Sanskrit in schools. Belonging to the Indo-Aryan group of languages, this language has deep rooted connections with people who have gone into Vedic mathematics and computer sciences. Today, it is spoken by less than 1% of Indians and is mostly used by Hindu priests during religious ceremonies.

A village in the southern state of Karnataka, Mattur in Shimoga district is one such village where Sanskrit is not considered a Deva Bhasha (language of the gods) but a language which is spoken by every man, woman and child. Another few districts and villages like Monad and Baghuwar in Madhya Pradesh, Ganoda in Rajasthan, and Jhiri have Sanskrit as their local language right from the grocery store to the barber shop, to comic books like Chandamama printed in Sanskrit. Mutterings under banyan trees, chit-chat in verandahs, pleasantries on village paths, disputes in the panchayat — in these towns, it's all in Sanskrit. In the end, I will just leave you with some food for thought. In the fast-moving world of today, these villages are like capsules of culture and ethnic identity. It is indeed important for us to understand the role languages like Sanskrit play in our lives, and the importance of our heritage.

- Arushi Bhutani, 9

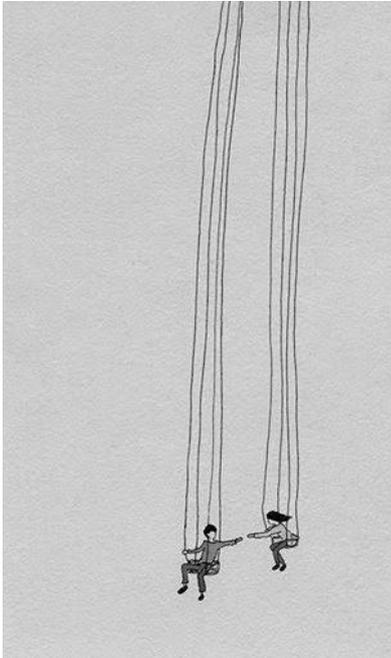
## A Glimpse From Afar

"Give me a second alright?"

She smiled her most dazzling smile and turned towards the bathroom. It took less than a second for her face to go back to normal, leaving no trace of anything but a stare as cold as ice.

As she walked swiftly to the black door at the end of the corridor, she knew he was watching her. Not how they usually looked, but he was admiring her as though she was a piece of art. She hated it. Her heels hit the floor almost rhythmically as she strutted towards the bathroom, rushed in and locked it behind her. She stood with her back against the door, using the handle to keep herself up. After a few seconds, she stood up straight, tucked her hair behind her ears and went in front of the mirror. Two brown eyes stared back into hers and she felt the rest of the world fade away.

"I like the way you write" he'd said, "It's so emotional and open. I feel like I know you already." But he didn't. He didn't know her at all. He knew her as the sun knows the moon, as a glimpse from afar. How could she explain that she wasn't who she wrote about? That every feeling and every thought the girl in her poetry had, she saw as weakness. She knew that everything he adored about her was exactly what she was not. But his smile had some truth in it. She knew he couldn't do anything that someone else hadn't already done, take something someone hadn't already stolen or break something that someone hadn't already shattered. But was that enough? It never ended well and she was more that convinced that he wouldn't be the exception. It always started like this, 'genuinely', but soon it would fall into a cycle of the same dry conversations and empty touches. He wasn't the first and she knew he wouldn't be the last. It wasn't that they thought it'd be different, it was that she did.



People believe that those who write, are full of a palette of feelings. That they can vocalise all the feelings that arise in their hearts and make sense of all the thoughts that wander in their minds. I believe it's quite the opposite. They are those who hide behind pages of books and meaningless laughter. Those who look away when you look into their eyes for they know there is nothing to see. Those who pour themselves into words of a poem or lines in a book, spilling a few pieces here and there that they never care to pick up. I believe they are those who feel too much, but nothing at all.

She closed her eyes and suddenly she was back between the four walls of the bathroom. She wiped the tears that she hadn't even felt rolling down her cheeks and looked down at the floor. She shut her eyes for second, looked back up at stranger in the mirror smiling back at her and walked out the door.

He stood alone against the wall, holding a glass of whiskey. As he saw her come towards him, he straightened up and smiled at her. "You look even lovelier than you did before". She smiled back.

'Why not?' she thought.

- Saieeshaa Sethi, 12

## क्वांटिको

"क्वांटिको" इस शो का नाम हम सब ने सुना होगा क्योंकि पहली बार एक भारतीय अभिनेत्री एक विदेशी शो में काम कर रही हैं। यह शो बहुत ही रोमांचक है। यह युवा एफ-बी-आई के जीवन पर एक नजर डालता है। यह कहानी वर्जीनिया में क्वांटिको अड्डे पर पआधारित है। इन युवा एफ-बी-आई में से एक स्लीपर आतंकवादी हैं, जिसने अमरीका में एक बड़ा सा ब्लास्ट करवाया है जिसमें कई लोग ने अपनी जाने गवा दी हैं।



क्वांटिको में प्रियंका चोपड़ा, पूर्व मिस-वर्ल्ड और बॉलीवुड स्टार, 'एलेक्स पररिश' की भूमिका निभा रही हैं और वह इस ड्रामे की मुख्य पत्रा है। न्यूयॉर्क शहर में एक बड़े आतंकवादी हमले के मुख्य संदिग्ध बनने के बाद उसको यह पता लगाना है कि उसके सहपाठियों में से कौन असली आतंकवादी था। यह शो अत्यंत दिलचस्प है। जैसे ही आपको लगने लगता है कि आपको पता है क्या हो रहा है- तभी कहानी एकाएक एक नया रूप ले लेती है। मेरे हिसाब से क्वांटिको को जरूर देखना चाहिये। मैं इस शो को पांच तारे दूंगी।

-अदिति सिंह, 9

## Mass Extinction

Alarm bells have been sounded by a recent article published in Science Advances which alerts us about the sixth mass extinction. Nature took the toll in earlier extinctions but now human activities might trigger a deadlier extinction. Scientists predict that 75% of the species that inhabit our planet today might be wiped out in just two generations' time if we don't protect our environment seriously. Can you imagine our great grand children not having the possibility of seeing life as we know it today!

African elephants, an iconic species will probably disappear by 2020. It is hunted for tusks to produce ivory. Rhinoceros are facing dramatic population losses due to poaching for horns which fetch a higher price than gold for an equivalent weight. It's no secret that polar bears will disappear by 2100 due to climate change. The Yangtze River Dolphin, the Skunk Frog and the Chinese Paddlefish and hundreds of other species have already been declared extinct.

This and much, much more is bound happen in our life time if we don't make a collective effort to reduce our carbon footprint. Our actions in the next 10 years will seal the fate of bio diversity on our planet. So it's really the wake up time! We definitely wouldn't want to be the generation responsible for the next mass extinction!

- Rabiya Gupta, 9

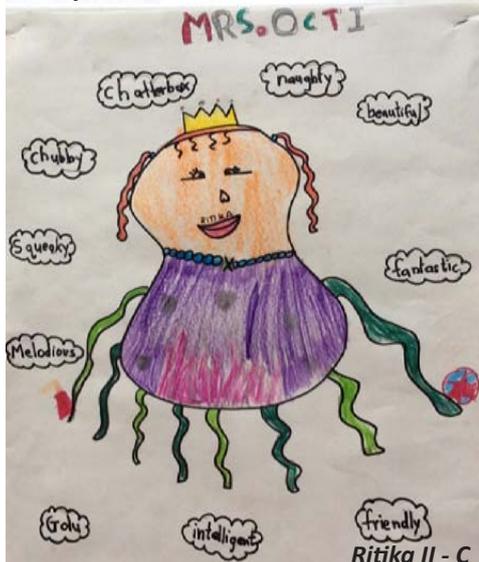
**Happiness**

Happiness is everywhere,  
 And it is also something we can share.  
 Happiness brings a smile to your face,  
 And it is something you should carry to every place.  
 You have happiness in school,  
 And even when you visit the pool,  
 You have it when you are running a race,  
 And even while tying a shoe lace.  
 But sometimes happiness is carried away,  
 By thoughts and moments that are gray.  
 But happiness is not taken away so easy,  
 Because in two minutes flat you are back to being breezy.  
 So now you'll remember to keep happiness  
 in your mind,  
 With thoughts and memories of the joyful  
 kind!! **Sana Mehra - IV A**



Vveaves was a lot of fun  
 Thank goodness we were not in the sun  
 Words, Puppetry and Western Dance  
 Each and every group got a chance  
 Words, made a recipe that was the best  
 This is a funny fun festival without a test  
 Children came from other schools  
 We didn't have to use any tinkering tools  
 One boy in Western Dance said to change  
 the dance  
 His teacher gave him a golden glittering  
 chance  
 This was a special, 'Spirit Of Friendship'  
 And we all should maintain this relationship.

**Myra Prasad and Shiv Malik IV - C**



**Ritika II - C**

**'Survival Depends on the Living Beings' Ability to Adapt to their Environment'**

Studying thoroughly about adaptations can make you aware of many things which are not so known. This fact totally applies to 'rain forests' and 'hot deserts'. Many plants, animals and even humans have adapted to live in hot deserts and rain forests.

First let us talk about rainforests. All the rainforests of the world are located on the equator and have hot and humid climate throughout the year. They are divided into layers and all plants have adapted to live there. There is vast variety of plants with over 3000 species. There are many types of plants like epiphytes and parasites. Epiphytes take support from another organism but makes their own food whereas parasites take support as well as take the nutrients. An example of an epiphyte is an orchid and for a parasite it is Rafflesia.

Many plant parts have also adapted. The roots have adapted as aerial roots, breathing roots and buttress roots. When water is collected on the soil after a downpour, the roots can't breathe so they come out of the soil to breathe. Buttress roots are triangular extensions which support a tree. There are many animals in the rainforest like jaguar, sloth (the slowest animal in the rainforest) and different kinds of beetles. The loudest monkey is the Howler Monkey. Some animals have a prehensile which they use as a fifth limb.

Living in the rainforest is very tough but living in a hot desert for me is tougher. Hot deserts are found between 15 degree and 35 degree north and south of the equator. Their arid land is very tough to live in. Even though, many plants and animals do survive over here. Plants have tap roots which go deep underground to collect as much water they find. There are also fibrous roots that spread out to find as much water as they can get.

The Cactus has leaves which are actually thorny spines to not let much water evaporate. It also has ridges to help it shrink. Many animals have adapted like the Thorny Devil and Kit Fox. The Kit Fox gives out heat from its big ears. Most animals are cold blooded and come out at night. The camel has padded feet to walk on hot sand. There are many tribes in Hot Deserts like Bedouins of the Sahara and Bushmen of Kalahari. So, if we have the ability to survive in very harsh conditions and adapt, all living beings can live anywhere! **Saarthak Khosla V - A**

**Agra- A City Full of History**

Agra is an old city, full of history. Mughal emperors ruled from here and built many monuments such as Agra Fort and Taj Mahal. At that time Yamuna would have been a sparkling river but now it is dirty and polluted and looks more like a stream than a river. The Mughals wanted their buildings to be like heaven and that's why most of their buildings were built near water bodies.

Agra is very crowded and has a lot of moving population. It is very hard for the people who clean Agra to do their jobs, due to the population. Agra is a polluted and dirty city. Too many industries lead to more pollution. The leather factories had been polluting Yamuna, so many years back the government shut them down and moved them to the outskirts of Agra. People still work there but it has lost its glory.

They threw so much chemical in Yamuna that its effect has still not gone. The government has planted trees around the Taj to stop the pollution. Agra is an ancient city and we should try our best to save it. **Saanya Anand IV - A**



प्यारी चिड़िया  
 रात को बोली चिड़िया ।  
 कल भी दिन है बढ़िया ।  
 रात को मैं खाना खाती  
 माँ संग हूँ गाना गाती ।  
 जब माँ मुझे बुलाती  
 गोदी में सो जाती ।  
 मीरा शुक्ला 2 सी

मेरी चिड़िया  
 मेरी चिड़िया अच्छी चिड़िया ।  
 दाना खाकर हो गई बढ़िया ।  
 फिर वो मुझे बुलाती है ।  
 उसके बाद सो जाती है ।  
 उदय रेलन 2 ए

# INTER HOUSE ANJALIKA KAPUR DRAMA FESTIVAL



## YELLOW HOUSE

इस के नाटक की कहानी हिमाचल प्रदेश के एक गाँव में स्थित थी और कल्पना व वास्तविकता के बीच की पतली रेखा के बारे में थी। दिल्ली से, एक पुल के निर्माण के लिए आए, राहुल और मोहन के अनुभवों के माध्यम से दर्शकों को अम्बिका नाम की एक कन्या की दुख-भरी कहानी सुनाई गई।

स्थानीय निवासी और मजदूर पुल के निर्माण के खिलाफ थे, और एकत्रित होकर, उन दो दिल्ली-वालों को, स्वर्गवासी अम्बिका के नकली भूत का प्रयोग करते हुए, डराकर भगाने की योजना बनाते हैं। और निश्चित रूप से, उस रात राहुल और मोहन के आलीशान बंगले में एक लाल साड़ी वाली औरत आती है। जहाँ दर्शक सोचते हैं कि यह मजदूरों की योजना है, वहाँ हमें पता चलता है कि उनकी योजना अभी तक अमल में लाई ही नहीं गई थी। राहुल और मोहन अपने सेवक और घर के रखवाले, हरीश, से पूछताछ करते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी उन्हें अपने सवाल का जवाब नहीं मिलता। दूविधा और संदेह के बीच में हास्य और मजाक का अच्छा इस्तेमाल भी किया गया। अंत में सच्चाई से पर्दा उठ ही जाता है। मालूम पड़ता है कि अम्बिका वह कन्या थी जिसका विवाह हरीश के साथ तय किया गया था। परन्तु, हरीश किसी और के लिए अम्बिका से शादी का वचन तोड़ देता है। शर्मिदा और समाज में बेइज्जत की गई अम्बिका खुदखुशी कर लेती है और उसकी आत्मा हरीश को परेशान करने लौटती है। यह सब जानने के बाद, राहुल और मोहन वापस दिल्ली लौट जाते हैं। बिना कुछ किए ही गाँववालों की मन की इच्छा पूरी ही जाती है और अम्बिका की कहानी यहीं समाप्त होती है।



## BLUE HOUSE

The second play, presented by Blue House, was titled, 'The Outsiders'. It depicted the struggles and challenges faced by people who were considered socially unacceptable. Focussing on three different stories, the ten-minute long play highlighted the deterrents to growth that are often provided by society.

The first scene opened with a somewhat typical household of a middle-class family. As soon as the young daughter comes of age, her priorities are expected to shift towards household chores and preparation for marriage (apparently the sole fate of a woman). This girl, however, is more focussed on her education and is more 'modern' as

per her parents' standards. The next scene narrated the story of a married man who admits to his homosexuality before his wife. This confession is rendered with guilt, shame and a sense of dejection. In the final aspect of the play, the protagonist is an atheist son of extremely religious parents. Having established religion as the more important part of their identity, his parents fail to accept him, dismissing him as a Traitor. The concluding scene of the play highlighted the reality of sensational journalism, where a journalist writes not for the greater good of society, but only to satisfy the readers' demands.

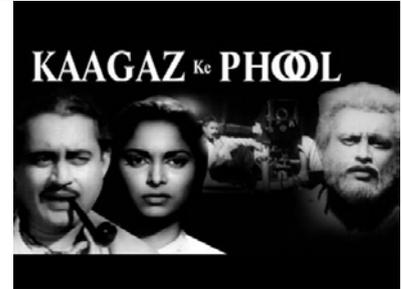
## GREEN HOUSE

ग्रीन हाउस द्वारा गुरुदत्त की कहानी का प्रदर्शन बहुत खूब था। उन्होंने उनकी जीवन कथा को एक अद्भुत रूप में सबके समक्ष प्रकट किया। सभी अभिनेताओं के आवाजे बुलंद और जोश भरी थी। गुरुदत्त एक प्रसिद्ध अभिनेता और निर्देशक थे। उन्होंने जाल, प्यासा जैसी कई महान फिल्मों में अपना योगदान दिया है जो भारतीय सिनेमा की विशेष प्रस्तुतियों में से हैं।

गुरुदत्त की फिल्म 'कागज के फूल' की असफलता के कारण वे बहुत तबाह थे क्योंकि उन्होंने अपनी पूरी मेहनत उसमें लगाई थी और उसके बाद उन्होंने किसी भी फिल्म में निर्देशक का काम नहीं किया। वे वहीदा रहमान के प्यार में पड़ गए थे, जिसके कारण उनकी बीवी गीता उनसे जुदा हो गयी। रहमान भी कुछ देर के बाद उनसे दूर चली गई। सभी आघात और खालीपन के साथ सामना करने में असमर्थ हैं, वह बहुत पीने लग गए। अक्टूबर १०, १९६४ को उन्होंने नशे के साथ नींद की गोलियाँ लेकर खुदखुशी कर ली। उनकी मृत्यु भारतीय सिनेमा के लिए एक बहुत भारी क्षति थी। गुरुदत्त जी को मरणोपरांत भी हिंदी सिनेमा के स्वर्ण युग का गुरु माना जाएगा। ग्रीन हाउस के उनकी प्रति यह श्रद्धांजलि सभी दर्शकों के लिए बहुत प्रभावशाली थी। नाटक के लिए लिखी स्क्रिप्ट उच्च स्तर की थी और सभी अभिनेताओं ने अपनी भूमिकाएँ अच्छी तरह निभाई और सभी छात्रों के लिए एक असामान्य कहानी प्रस्तुत की।

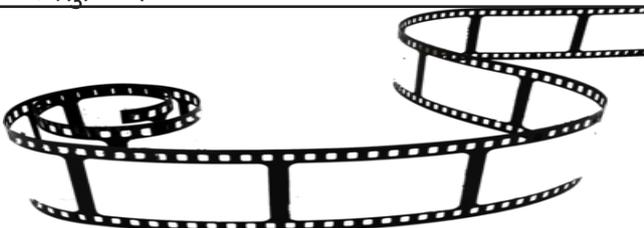


## RED HOUSE



The play put up by Red house had all the ingredients of a typical Bollywood movie. It consisted of dance, song, drama and romance and was an absolute pleasure to watch. Red house depicted the story of a boy named Rahul who dreamt of winning a dance championship to respect and honour the glory of his deceased mother as well as try to win over the girl of his dreams- Shruti. His father was un-supportive of his son's dreams, and instead wanted Rahul to continue working in an office. Prabhudeva was helping Rahul attain his dream and via this Rahul reached the finals. Through this journey to the finals Rahul had alienated his friends and even rejected the girl he desperately wanted.

On the day of the finals Prabhudeva discontinued helping Rahul and left him stranded which is when Shruti danced with him. He then felt extremely bad and realized that he had wronged his family and friends by shutting them out and immediately apologized. This play that was inspired by the Kingdom of Dreams act known as 'Jhumroo' had perfectly choreographed upbeat dance numbers that brought a smile to each and everyone's faces. It was the perfect end to the two day festival wherein every house came up with something totally unique and different than that of the other houses.



## TOP TEN BUDGET PHONES

10. **Iphone 5c**- This phone has made it on just because it has a very user friendly interface. Otherwise it has average features and I normally refer to it as the schoolgirls Iphone.

9. **Htc 620g**- A powerful phone this can run effortlessly. Yet I am not too fond of the custom UI and you do not get your complete money's worth. The design whilst stylish gives off a cheap plastic feel.

8. **Xaiomi Mi4i**- This phone is cheap, well built and runs smoothly. It looks good too and has a great camera. Then why number 8 you ask? Well, in all honesty it is a herculean task to have it running for an entire year as it will soon turn to a violently heating and slow machine.

7. **Alcatel Onetouch Idol X+**- This phone has barely been heard of. Why, I absolutely cannot comprehend. At the price of Rs.9999 it is a budget monster but still lacks the customizability and features of a higher end phone.



6. **Lenovo K3 note**- This phone has an exceptionally great camera for its price bracket and arguably Lenovo's most popular smartphone in India

5. **Honor Holly**- This phone boasts great specifications and is an overall great phone. Yet it has the infamous problem that most budget phones face, overheating.

4. **Moto G and X**- Depending on how deep your pockets are you could go for either of these two models. They are packed with the newest toys and sport Android V.5 out of the box.

3. **Nexus 5**- Now one edition old the Nexus 5 is one of the greatest androids on the market. It is very well rounded yet its SAR value (to do with radiation) is not great and the model is slightly more expensive.

2. **Asus Zenfone 2**- I personally own this smartphone therefore I can assure you it is a monster. With four gigabytes of RAM an amazing camera and a 2.3Ghz processor this phone is unstoppable.

1. **One plus Two**- This device leaves me speechless. It may be slightly more expensive than others on this list but it is a beautiful machine that has great output and maximises the potential of the android Lollipop OS it comes with.

- Aryan Sadh, 9

## BJP in Bihar

*'With the upcoming elections in Bihar, the BJP has decided it needs to make its poll more attractive to the people and so it has gone on record saying it will award 5000 two-wheeler vehicles and 2 years' worth of free petrol to meritorious girls who have passed there 10th or 12th standard exams.'*

The statement providing this information was told by Bihar's very own former Finance and Deputy Chief Minister at the Patna Airport before he left to work on his campaign.

These comments came in the wake of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's sarcastic questions as to where the supposed 'free petrol' was coming from, and to this Sushil Modi responded that the origins of the petrol are unimportant, all that matters is that it will be supplied.

This promise formed a major attraction of BJP vision documents for the Bihar elections which was unveiled by the Union Finance minister, Arun Jaitley.

Sushil Modi also promised that the future NDA government would provide free LPG gas connections to BPL families, and that the future government would also order a CBI inquiry into the alleged 100 crore rupees medical scam relating to the purchase of substandard medicines at hospitals at high rates.

The BJP have also seemed to have persuaded the Modi-led government to announce the implementation of the One Rank, One Pension scheme which could provide the party a political advantage in the upcoming Bihar elections. The Bihar polls are to be held in five phases starting from 12 October ending on 5 November.



- Saahil Armaan Kumar, 9

*The Newsletter is bringing back Teacher of the Week!  
Email all suggestions and questions to  
newsletter@vasantvalley.org*

## The Vasant Valley Lexicon

Four seemingly simple words, and their interesting etymologies.

1. **Appendix**- In Latin it means "the part that hangs." A human appendix hangs at the end of the large intestine; appendices come at the end of books.

2. **Robot**- The word "robot" comes from the Czech word "robota," meaning "forced labor" - which sounds strangely like slavery. Remember iRobot?

3. **Phony**- Back in day, pirates used to sell "fawney," basically British slang for fake gold rings. Anything can happen when you add a buccaneer's accent.

4. **Denim**- The tough cloth used in jeans was originally made in Nimes, France, as well as Genoa, Italy. It was called Serge di Nimes--later shortened to di Nimes, which became denim.

- Jay Jagganath, 10

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Aryan Sadh, Saahil Kumar, Rabiya Gupta, Aditi Singh, Arushi Bhutani, Ishita Malhotra, Devika Vir, Zoya Hassan, Aditya Kapur, Asees Kaur, Jay Jagganath, Ananya Jain, Kamyaa Yadav, Nikita Dhawan, Riya Kothari, Sarina Mittal, Rishabh Chatterjee, Saieeshaa Sethi, Serena Nanda & Arman Puri  
**Editor- Noor Dhingra**

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