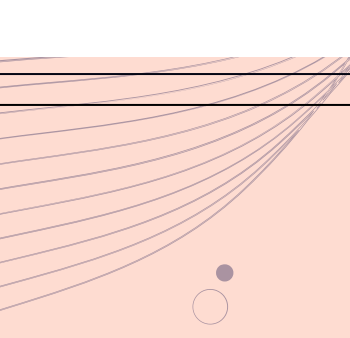


VDJS GAZETTE

VOLUME 16 EDITION 1



Let the Tricolour unfurl



“THERE MUST BE FAIRIES, FOR WE HAVE FAIRY TALES, AND HOW
CAN ONE HAVE A FAIRY TALE IF THERE ARE NO FAIRIES?”

—CHARLES KINGSLEY

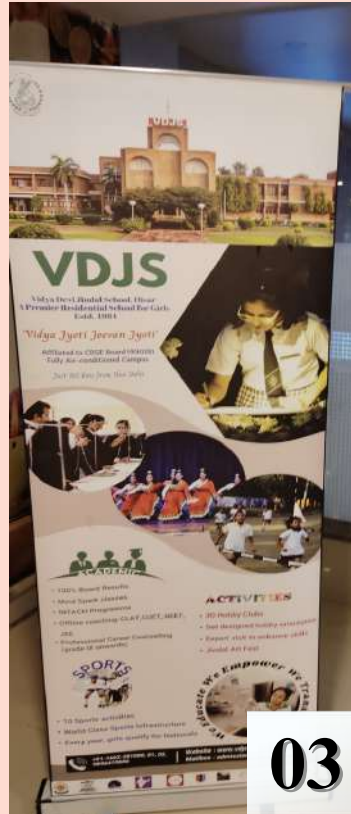


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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



SITARA DUBE

(PREFECT EDITOR, VDJS GAZETTE)

Sometimes I look back on the year that has gone by and wonder, how could I ever even begin to describe such a year? As I glance at all my books that are soon going to disappear one by one every time I give another exam, I remember the words of my sister, “Sitara, the thing about Grade 12 is that this one semester could either make you or break you, and it's all up to you.” And regardless of me believing in choosing, or rather, creating my own destiny, I can't help but accept that God, some miracles really took place this year that completely swerved the car of life into a direction I couldn't even think of following.

For instance, me assuming the post of a prefect, or me winning two awards on annual day, or again, me somehow winning the First Runner Up for Miss VDJS, sounds like a complete fever dream to me. And four years back, when I first joined the school in 9th grade, I used to think, “Wow, it must be nice to achieve so much; I want to become someone like that. But I can't do it because of ‘so-and-so reason.’” But in February 2024, I sat myself down and earnestly thought, “This year is going to decide everything; are you really going to let every opportunity slip through your fingers because of your indecisiveness, or are you actually going to start shaping your future now?”

I made a decision to actually give ‘trying’ a try because I had never done that before and instead just quit before even thinking about doing anything mildly constructive in my school life. And so, I took the first step, and that was assuming the future position of one of my best friends who was leaving the school—Editor in Chief. I was reasonably terrified considering I had been in the publications team for years and years and never submitted a single report due to my own indolence.

My joining the magazine and assuming a role of responsibility set forth a snowball effect so staggering that it had my parents asking me, “Beta, what is happening?” And all of a sudden, a somewhat of an underdog of the class was featured everywhere, and this time it was NOT for failing in Hindi.

The point I am trying to make through all of this is that, before even trying their shot at it, most people quit before they even begin to think about an opportunity, and in my opinion, how do you even predict failing if you never even try? There are no wrong paths; it was just harder than you thought it would be, or maybe you are standing at the crossroad deluding yourself into believing it's impossible. So take that step, and trust me when I tell you, all it takes is that one decision, and the world will put everything in place for you.

Sitara Dube,
Signing Off

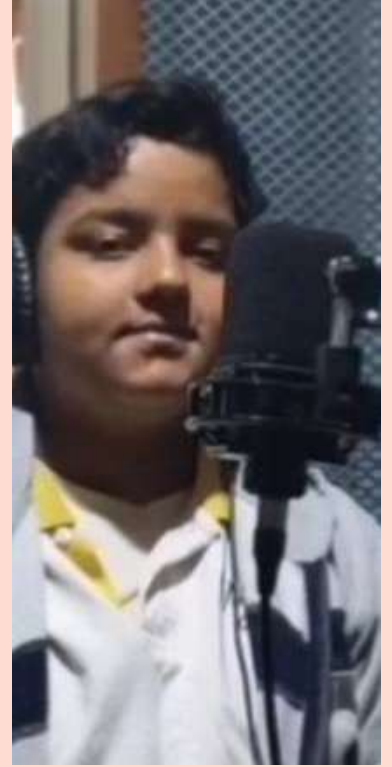
THIS WEEK



With the conclusion of the Republic Day Flag Hoisting Ceremony, another challenge leaves the Jindalites awash in stress like a bucket of cold water—Examination Week. Panic ensues among the student ranks in the face of incomplete notebooks, projects, and practicals. But of course, all shall pass. But unlike the other utterly stressed-out students, the Jindalites returning from the Talent Show 2024 organized by the All India Theatre Artist Council emerged victorious in their endeavors. This week was one filled with victory but also loss of peace and laziness amongst the students.



ALL INDIA THEATRE ARTIST COUNCIL (AITAC) IN HARYANA, TALENT SHOW 2024



Our school's students have once again brought honor to the institution with their outstanding performances at the Talent Show 2024, organized by the All India Theatre Artist Council (AITAC), Haryana. This prestigious online event highlighted exceptional talent in classical vocal, instrumental music, and dance. Anoushka Thakur, a Class 11 student, excelled in the classical vocal category, winning first place with her stunning performance that showcased her technical brilliance and emotional depth. In the instrumental category, Lakshita Goel, also in Class 11, secured the top spot with a captivating sitar performance that reflected her dedication. Ridhi and Shreyal Sharma earned an honorable second place in the dance category with their elegant choreography and synchronized performance, leaving the audience in awe.

OUTREACH PROGRAM AAA



From January 17th to 26th, Vidya Devi Jindal School held an outreach program to engage parents and alumni from various cities, including Patna, Siliguri, Kathmandu, and more. The initiative aimed to raise awareness of the school's offerings and build a sense of community. Admissions officers and faculty visited hotels and resorts to conduct presentations showcasing the school's curriculum, infrastructure, and extracurricular activities. These sessions offered insights into the school's educational philosophy and supportive environment. The program also featured interactive discussions with alumni, who shared their experiences, and a Q&A segment for parents to address concerns with school representatives. Overall, the outreach successfully increased awareness and strengthened connections within the community, fostering dialogue among current families, alumni, and prospective members.



On January 26th, 2025, the school celebrated Republic Day and held the Tricolor Flag Hoisting Ceremony. The NCC cadets escorted Ma'am Principal to the flagpole, where she pulled the rope to unfurl a flower-filled tricolor flag that proudly represents our country. The national anthem played on the speakers with the melodious voice of the choir singing along to the beat. The entire school sang in unison with pride as the feeling of nationalism was kindled in their hearts.

The students were then asked to go to the refreshment area to get their ladoos and tea, items that were snuffed out as quickly as they were placed.





LAVANYA SINGH
(HEAD GIRL)

Lavanya Singh, the Head Girl for session 2024-25 is a subject of admiration and adoration for many. Known for her calm and composed demeanor, she has many achievements, including the one that got her the much coveted crimson academic blazer. Adorning all the qualities that prove that she earned her position on her sleeve she continues to be an inspiration for all.

Q1. As Head Girl, you had to work closely with teachers and other student leaders and the school administration. How did you ensure effective teamwork and collaboration?

Ans. The key to teamwork and people management is always good communication and understanding. I wouldn't have been successful if I hadn't actively put in efforts to ensure that my council members trusted each other. When you understand each other well, credibility follows.

Q2. Describe a time when you tried something new or took a risk. What happened, and what did you learn from the experience?

Ans. Initially, the position of Head Girl was itself quite experimental for me. I was used to getting directions and instructions, but issuing them myself was an entirely different matter. The responsibility of being the one in charge is always a little risky that way.

Q3. What scientific discoveries or figures have inspired you the most, and how did they influence your leadership style?

Ans. Nikola Tesla has always been a big inspiration for me. So was Max Planck. Both exemplify curiosity, and I count that as a very important trait. Lack of curiosity leads to lack of motivation, and hence, stagnation in progress. Stay curious, and you'll be thrilled with what you find.

Q4. When Principal Ma'am introduced a new initiative or policy, how did you support the students in understanding and embracing the change?

Ans. The first step I took was to apply the rule on myself. I always understood my position and knew that my actions would influence many. If I did not follow the rules myself, then enforcing them on the rest of the school would be pointless. 'Change begins with you.'

Q5. If you had to recommend a book to the entire school to inspire positive change, which one would it be and why?

Ans. I would recommend the memoir of Maharani Gayatri Devi, if I had to. The book is eloquently written. I appreciate that it provided an honest window into the lives of female leaders after Indian independence, both in their respective lives and in politics.

Q6. In what ways did your role as Head Girl help prepare you for life after school?

Ans. I feel more resourceful and confident in my own skin. After upholding the position of the school's image both inside and outside the campus, there is a certain air of self-assuredness that now surrounds me. I feel that I am now more comfortable in asserting myself when I want to.

Q7. What's the funniest or most unexpected thing that has happened to you while on duty as a Head Girl?

Ans. Probably my meetings with Principal, Naina Ma'am. While standing outside her office, there was simply no way of discerning how the meeting would unfold. Sometimes it was just exchanging feedback and problems, and sometimes it was a candid discussion on various topics. She has an impeccable poker face.

Q8. If you were to host a school talent show, what would your talent be?

Ans. Video Gaming. Although I doubt the students would find my screams during horror gameplay admirable.

Failure is a part of life. It is not a punishment. It is a lesson. It is a chance to learn. It is a chance to grow. It is a chance to become a better person.



Dr Sameena Ansari
(Senior Life Skills Counsellor, VDJS)

f :

Exams can be a stressful experience for students of all ages. Examination anxiety is something every student experiences. The fear of failure, the pressure to perform well, and the overwhelming syllabus can create stress that affects performance. While a certain level of stress can motivate students to study, excessive anxiety can be overwhelming and hinder performance.



Failure is a part of life. It is not a punishment. It is a lesson. It is a chance to learn. It is a chance to grow. It is a chance to become a better person.

Exam anxiety is a type of performance anxiety that arises before or during an exam. It manifests as excessive worry, nervousness, or fear that interferes with a student's ability to perform to their full potential. This anxiety can range from mild nervousness to severe panic attacks.

But what if there was a way to manage this anxiety and turn it into confidence? Let's explore this through the story of Aisha, a bright but nervous student facing her final exams.

Failure is a part of life. It is not a punishment. It is a lesson. It is a chance to learn. It is a chance to grow. It is a chance to become a better person.

Aisha had always been a hardworking student, but the thought of exams filled her with dread. As the final exams approached, she found herself unable to concentrate. Every time she picked up her books, her heart raced, and her mind clouded with thoughts of failure. One evening, she confided in her grandmother, who smiled and said, "Aisha, let me tell you a secret about fear."



A A A A

Her grandmother took her to the garden and pointed at a small sapling. “Do you see this little tree? When the wind blows, it bends but never breaks. Why? Because its roots are strong.”

She continued, “Exams are like the wind. If your preparation is your roots, no storm can uproot you. The trick is to focus on growing your roots instead of fearing the wind.”

Aisha listened carefully and decided to change her approach to studying.

A A A A

Inspired by her grandmother’s words, Aisha adopted these strategies:

Organized Study Plan: She created a realistic study schedule, breaking topics into smaller, manageable sections. This helped her stay on track without feeling overwhelmed.

Practice and Mock Tests: She practiced past papers and timed herself to get familiar with the exam pattern. The more she practiced, the more confident she became.

Relaxation Techniques: She learned deep breathing and meditation to calm her nerves before studying and during the exam.

Healthy Lifestyle: Aisha ensured she had a balanced diet, got enough sleep, and exercised regularly, which helped her stay physically and mentally strong.

Positive Thinking: She replaced negative thoughts with positive affirmations. Instead of saying, “I will fail,” she told herself, “I am prepared, and I will do my best.”

The Day of the Exam

When the exam day arrived, Aisha still felt nervous but reminded herself of the little sapling. She took deep breaths, recalled all her preparation, and approached the paper with a calm mind. To her surprise, she found that she could answer most questions with confidence.

A A

Aisha passed her exams with flying colours, but more importantly, she learned that managing anxiety was about preparation, mind-set, and self-care.

If you ever feel overwhelmed by exams, remember the sapling in the wind—focus on strengthening your roots, and no storm will shake you.





INK AND INTRIGUE

The air has been laced with a spicy aroma, or is it just me? Or maybe it's just the insane ongoing drama in the school wafting under our noses with the breeze.

It's constant fighting from Savitri House's ground floor that keeps the rest entertained. Psst, between the 12th and 10th graders—they don't like the other classes using their washrooms. But that aside, no one is talking about the upset 12th graders over the ACs in their rooms that they will never get the chance to use.

And that's not all! Don't look behind you, but there are external examiners roaming the corridors—be on your best behavior, or be on your way to the Principal's Office. The prefects are kept patiently waiting for their last-ever principal's dinner at Ma'am's house after the conclusion of pre-boards while the new and MASSIVE prefectorial body looks on with hopes for the next academic year.

Junior classes cook and plot gifts to give to their favorite leaving seniors, and the rest of the school has the color draining from their faces in the face of annual examinations and internal markings. Notebooks have never been completed faster, and projects have never been covered in cellophane so cleanly. The utility hub continues to run out of materials, but it's only a matter of time before things return to normal.

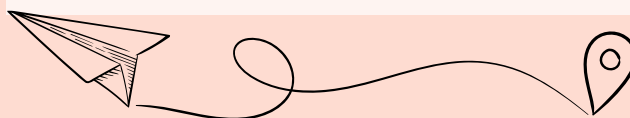
However, be careful on your way, and remember—one whisper at a time.
;))

ISTANBUL

TRAVEL BLOG



Istanbul, located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, is a city of timeless splendor and cultural fusion. The city's historic heart, Sultanahmet, features the Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque, the ancient Hippodrome, and the Basilica Cistern. On the second day, visitors can explore the Grand Bazaar, a labyrinth of over 4,000 shops, and enjoy a culinary feast at the Spice Bazaar. A leisurely cruise along the Bosphorus offers stunning views of the city. On the third day, visitors can explore the city's modern side, including trendy boutiques, art galleries, and cafes. The Galata Tower offers panoramic views of the city, perfect for photography enthusiasts. Crossing the Bosphorus to the Asian side brings a different vibe, with Kadiköy offering vibrant markets and a seaside promenade. Dinner at a rooftop restaurant is a perfect way to end the day. Istanbul is more than a city; it is an experience, with its layers of history and rich culture.



Currently brewing

FANTASIES COME TO LIFE AS THE CHILDREN'S WILDEST DREAMS SUDDENLY BECOME REALITY, SHAKING THE TOWN.

THE INFIRMARY FILLS UP WITH PATIENTS, ALL SEEMINGLY AFFECTED BY THE STRANGE EVENTS UNFOLDING AROUND THEM.

CLASSES 10 AND 12, ARE SEEN GETTING NIGHT REFRESHMENTS, AND THE ENTIRE TOWN WATCHES THEIR EVERY MOVE WITH SUSPICION.

THE LOCAL INNKEEPER WHISPERS THAT THE SHORTAGE OF GLASSES MIGHT BE LINKED TO THE TOWN'S OLD LEGEND ABOUT SPIRITS TRAPPED IN GLASS BOTTLES.

THE TOWN'S GOSSIP MILL RUNS WILD, WITH WHISPERS ABOUT THE INFIRMARY BEING FULL OF THOSE WHO SAW TOO MUCH OR PERHAPS EVEN VENTURED TOO FAR INTO THE FANTASY WORLD.

PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO WONDER IF THE CHILDREN'S FANTASIES WERE JUST THE BEGINNING OF SOMETHING BIGGER, SOMETHING THEY MIGHT NOT BE READY FOR.

WORD HOARD

espy

ɪˈspiː

(v.) To suddenly see or notice something.

(He espied a rare bird in the garden.)

indelible

ɪnˈdɛləbəl

(adj.) Impossible to erase or forget.

(Her smile left an indelible mark on his heart.)

evanesce

ˌɛvəˈnes

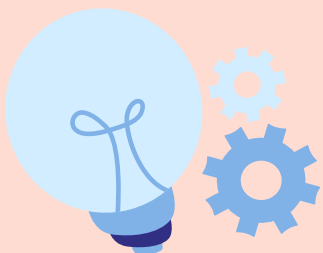
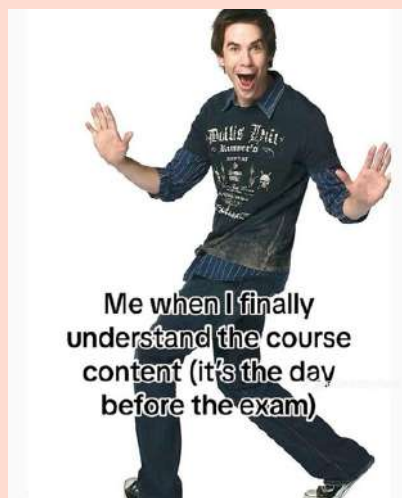
(v.) To slowly disappear or fade away.

veracious

vəˈreɪʃəs

(adj.) Always telling the truth.

(He is known for being veracious.)



WHAT'S IN	WHAT'S OUT
BOARD EXAMS	PREBOARDS
CAFETERIA	NEW TRACK SUITS
GAZETTE ROOM	IT LAB (OUR OLD OFFICE)
SUNNY MORNINGS	FOOGY MORNINGS

 **HAPPY**
BIRTHDAY



MEHAKDEEP KAUR
25-01



KHWAHISH AGARWAL
26-01



VRITI SHARMA
26-01



PRINCY SHARMA
27-01



DEVANGI DUTTA
27-01



KALPANA RATHORE
27-01



OJAL SHEORAN
27-01



HARJOT GARG
28-01



AVNEET KAUR
29-01



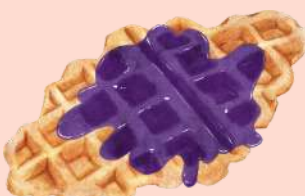
AINA GUPTA
30-01



ASHI AGARWAL
30-01



TANSHI JINDAL
30-01



BHAVYA AGARWAL
31-01



ANUSHKA GUPTA
01-02



ARYA TULSYAN
01-02



RIYA SHAH
01-02

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



AAYANA GOENKA
02-02



SOMA BANSAL
03-02



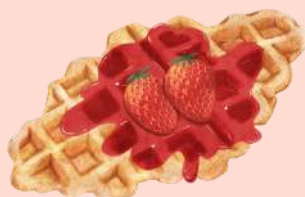
CHETNA
03-02



AYUSHI KUMARI
04-02



VANSHIKA GUPTA
04-02



SUHANA
04-02



ANAYA RUNGTA
05-02



PAYNI
05-02



ANIKA YADAV
08-02



VAISHNAVI RATHOUR
09-02



YUVIKA SARDA
09-02



ANJALI ANU NARAYAN
12-02



PRIYANSHI BHADU
12-02



ANNVI KUMARI
14-02



AAROHI AGARWAL
15-02



VARISHTHA SIHAG
15-02

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



AKSHDHA SINGLA
16-02



ANOUSHKA JAIN
16-02



HETISHA
16-02



TAVISHA GUPTA
16-02



LEKHANI MAHESHWARI
17-02



YASHVI BISHNOI
18-02



JIVISHA AGARWAL
19-02



AASHNA AGARWAL
19-02



AAYUSHI RASTOGI
19-02



LEHER AGARWAL
20-02



AADRIKA GOYANKA
20-02



YADVI MITTAL
21-02



RITIKA
22-02



PRAGYA
22-02



VIIDHI SUNIL PANGHAL
22-02



AMISHI AGARWAL
22-02

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



MANYA YADAV

24-02



ANGEL ANAND

24-02



ARSHPREET KAUR

27-02



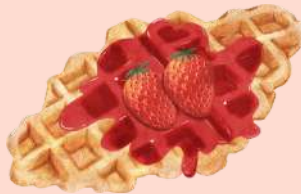
YASHVI TANWAR

27-02



JIYA SIWATCH

27-02



CHARVI MOHANKA

28-02



SUHANI SARRAFF

28-02



MEHAKDEEP KAUR

28-02

Happy Birthday



UPCOMING WEEK

(BOARD EXAMINATION)



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