

**See  
You  
Soon**

# The Shishukunj *Gazette*

Catch the Council  
in a Candid Interview!

A Magnifying Glass to The  
World of Science: Experiment  
along with Anveshika

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**FEB - MARCH 2022**

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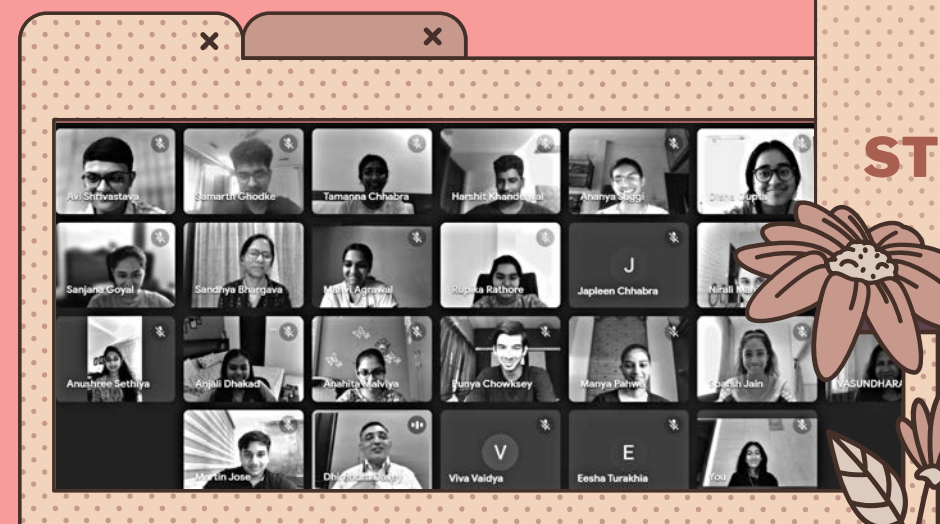
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**"You can only  
sharpen  
a blade so far."**

**THE  
WELLNESS  
CLUB**



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**WHO'S MOST  
LIKELY TO:  
STUDENT COUNCIL  
EDITION**

# EDITORIAL

**"The moonlight that shines on me at dawn,  
It's still the same as then.**

**Changes are fated to happen to everyone,  
Perhaps, how we change is what our undertaking is  
about."**

**—Moonlight, Agust D**

Namaste!

With yet another academic year coming to an end, marking the third year of the pandemic, our lives have molded themselves around its on & off-going nature and we have all adapted in different forms. The pandemic has taken a lot from us, and through it all, we have tried to carve a place for us. With those feelings of loss and battle, we bring to you another diverse issue of the Shishukunj Gazette!

The Shishukunj Gazette is a school magazine, although we diverge into topics that go far and beyond the school curriculum, this issue we're bringing it home— to Shishukunj. This month's issue is all about you. It's about the students. Despite the whirlwind of daily activities being snatched away from us, we found within ourselves the courage to face a different kind of storm— a storm that is so silent, it leaves you stranded and alone, even amongst life.

Through clubs, and MUNs, the school has tried to bring back the sense of normalcy back to us. This issue is dedicated to those slow events of progress, of re-growth. Of finding ourselves again.

This issue was the one of collaboration, the team and I are enormously thankful to all the clubs who participated to piece this together, and all the club leaders for their easy cooperation. I'm grateful to the Students' Council for their generous and warm participation. A special thank you goes to Disha Gupta and Shruti Laddha for being the pillars on which the Gazette leans on.

With this, I present to you,  
The Shishukunj Gazette: A Kaleidoscope of Us  
Happy reading!

**Anwesha Ghosh,  
Editor-in-chief**



# ALPHA CS

# The World of Computers

When you look around yourself, hunks of metal and plastic being used by nearly everyone come into visibility. Some look at it and smile, others hold it near their ears as they speak, some are furiously mashing buttons on what seems to be a bunch of letters while looking at a screen. As we know, all of these objects are computers, and in this club, we explore all the different fields and components of everything that is computers. Not only do we deal with programming, but different types of hardware, software, history— all with one important goal in mind: Practical Application.

This session, we started with the programming module wherein the students were given the opportunity to either learn Python Programming or Web Development. In the Python group, students learned the basics of Python which included learning about Python Variables, Strings, Dictionaries, etc.

The Web Development group started their Web Development (or as geeks call it "WebDev") journey by learning HTML and CSS which enabled them to create simple web pages.

Apart from this, the club conducted different competitions and discussions. The discussion ranged from Cyberseruti and Cyber Warfare, Electric Vehicles and their Future in India to Robotics and Tech in Shark Tank India. Some competitions which were organised were:

1. Logo Making Competition which gave the club its very own logo!
2. Problem Solving Event in which club members had to solve real life problems using computer science and technology.
3. Code Breaking and Guess What where club members had to solve some cryptic clues.

## Here are some of the clues for you to crack:

Example: Motivating Mr. Weasley (8)

[The number in the bracket specifies the number of letters in the answer]

Hint: Harry Potter and Dell

Answer: Inspiron

Reason: Mr. Weasley is a character named Ron Weasley in Harry Potter. If we have to motivate him, then we can say "Inspiron", which is basically "inspire + Ron". This is the name of the famous laptop series by Dell.

### 1. Where Sergey Brin keeps his boats (6,4)

Hint: Google Form, Google Sheets, Google Slides...

### 2. Marathi mother plays songs (3)

Hint: Drones

### 3. I'm enough (6)

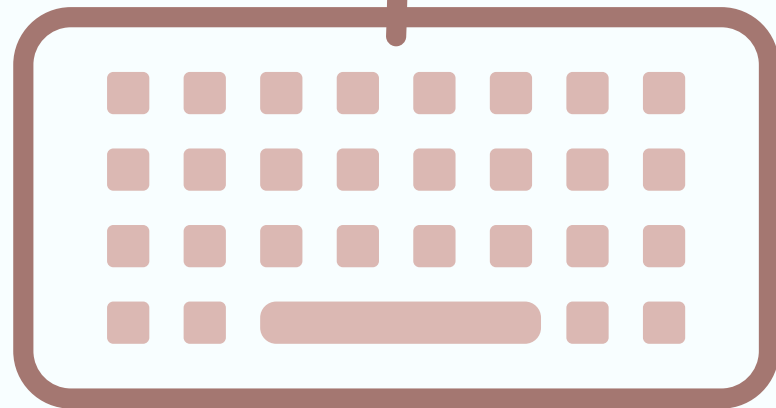
Hint: Translate in Hindi

### 4. I own this database (5)

Hint: Es Que El



# Typing in Hindi



क्या आप ने कभी सोचा है कि अकबारों में, और कुछ वेबसाइट पर हिंदी में कैसे लिखते हैं?

If you just read the above sentence and are wondering the same, well the answer to that is one that has a rich history behind it. Hindi can be typed on any computer using a special format of characters known as INSCRIPT.

(Other variations such as Remington exist but are now obsolete).

It has been the standardized keyboard layout since 1986 and serves as the basis for multiple Indian languages such as Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Gujarati, Gurmukhi etc.

To enable the setting on Windows-running computers:

1. Select Start
2. Select Settings
3. Select Time & Language
4. Select Language & Region
5. Choose 'Hindi' from the Windows display language menu, or next to Preferred languages select Add a language to install it if it already wasn't.

Alpha CS (Web Development) helped me a lot. I learned many new things with the guidance of our club leaders. I am very excited to continue with them even in the next session so that I can continue learning something new. Last but not the least I would like to thank Club Vice-President Nihar Shah for personally assisting me in the club.

—Aarush Rajguru, IX-E

The greatest dream of humanity is the effortless implementation of imagination to reality, 'what you think' to 'what it is' and the Alpha CS club strives to achieve just that. One moment one thinks of change, the other, one is using the string of code to stitch the fabric of thoughts. Each moment in the club is dedicated to endless possibilities and how to achieve them starting with mastering the basics, all thanks to our club presidents: Ayushman and Nihar bhaiya, the perfect mentors for this journey. My favourite sessions were the club competition ones. The amazing efforts of Nihar and Ayushman bhaiya in making the 'Guess What' and the judging of Rakesh Soni sir in the "Solve a Problem" competition was simply brilliant. In the end, I'd say that Alpha CS has faced problems in a few sessions but, just as it teaches its members, has overcome those issues and has given the best environment to code and learn. I wish to keep using this very environment to learn.

—Saksham Jain, VIII-C

The Alpha CS Club is a very interesting club. It has given us many opportunities to learn things that will benefit us in the future and now. It also gave us a platform to present ideas that could help the world like eradicating malnutrition with technology. It also taught us many things.

—Dhruv Chaudhary, VIII-G

6  
Hear it from  
the Club  
Members

Club Leaders: Ayushman Agrawal Hingorani XI-E, Nihar Shah XI-A

# ARENA: THE POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

**WORLD • POLITICS • HISTORY • SOCIETY • AWARENESS**

**Shishukunj • MAR • 2022**

**Edition Gazette 2203**

## Thomas Sankara

**B**reaking the shackles of imperialist hegemony, Thomas Sankara led the revolution in Burkina Faso for good. Seeking wisdom from socialist

philosopher, Karl Marx, and military strategy, he mustered up the courage to call out the government led by Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. Moreover, Sankara made his way into the administration, orating, forming alliances with neighbouring countries on the shared legacy of colonialism. But his socialist beliefs were no pleasure to Jean-Baptiste and his colleagues, and as a result, he was placed on house arrest.

These adversities did not affect Thomas's ideas and dreams, rather they made him stronger than ever. On August 4, 1983, Thomas Sankara became the new president of Burkina Faso. Sankara launched his ambitious programs. He always thought that racial, gender, ecological, epistemic, food, and economic justice were intrinsically connected. He believed revolutionary projects were necessarily holistic, considering that imperialism ends.

His foreign policies were centred on anti-imperialism, with his government eschewing all foreign aid, debt reduction, nationalising all land and mineral wealth, and averting the power and influence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. His domestic policies were focused on preventing famine with agrarian self-sufficiency and land reform, prioritising education with a nationwide literacy campaign, and promoting public health by vaccinating 2.5 million children against meningitis, yellow fever, and measles.

Other components of his national agenda included planting over ten million trees to halt the growing desertification of the Sahel, doubling wheat production by redistributing land from feudal landlords to peasants, suspending rural poll taxes and domestic rents, and establishing an ambitious road and rail construction program to "tie the nation together."

There were various strands to Sankara's approach to foreign affairs. Officially, he considered the revolution in Burkina Faso as 'part of the world movement for peace and democracy, against imperialism and all forms of hegemonism'. He called for 'mutual non-aggression', 'non-interference in domestic affairs', fairness in trade and for respecting 'each other's independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty'. A committed Pan-African, he supported national liberation movements around the world and was devoted to the anti-apartheid struggle. Sankara also advocated for debt non-repayment and disarmament and was far ahead of his times on environmental issues.

From his experience as a revolutionary leader and convinced of the need for a Marxist-Leninist understanding of human society, Sankara explained the origins of women's oppression and the importance to eradicate it.

**—Manas Pandey, XI-F**

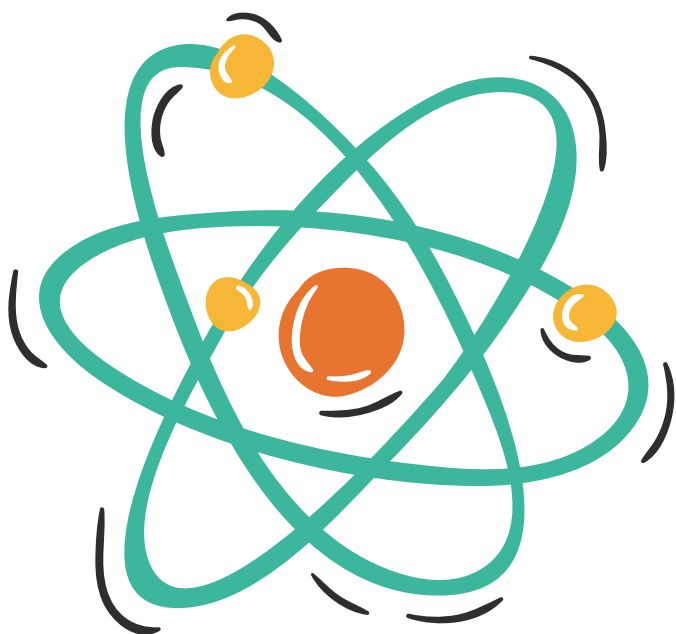
**Club Leaders: Manas Pandey XI-F , Arhant Doongarwal X-D**

# ANVESHIKA:

A Magnifying Glass to The World of Science

## INTRODUCTION

Anveshika, the Maths and Science club, thrives on curiosity. The motto of the club is to make STEM subjects more engaging by using hands-on activities and experiential learning, and we are all driven by a passion to know why things are the way they are. Anveshika also actively promotes the scientific method and encourages its members to adopt it as a part of their lifestyles.



## THE CONCEPT

Whilst Pythagoras, the 6th century BC Greek philosopher, is foremost known for his mathematical innovations, such as his study of the property of numbers and his well-known geometric theorem that relates the sides of a right triangle in a simple way, not many people know he was also an accomplished inventor.

One of his many inventions is the Pythagorean cup, also known as the greedy cup – a clever and entertaining vessel designed to hold an optimal amount of wine, forcing people to imbibe only in moderation – a virtue of great regard among ancient Greeks.

If the user was too greedy and poured wine over the designed threshold, the cup would spill its entire content. Imagine the dismay and stupefaction a glutton felt when his precious brew perished on the floor.

## STEP BY STEP PROCESS

**1**  
Cut the end of the straw nearest the bend at a 45°. Then, cut the tip-off of the pointy side.



**2**  
Bend the straw



**3**  
Using the pushpin, make a small hole in the centre of the bottom of one of the plastic cups. Then, widen it using your scissors. The straw should just fit in the hole.



Push the straw through the cup so that the bendy end of the straw is inside the cup. Then, hot glue the flat end of the bendy side of the straw to the bottom of the plastic cup



Turn the cup upside down and seal the space around the straw with hot glue.



Place the clear plastic cup lid on top of the second cup.



Then, carefully place the first plastic cup on top of the lid so that the straw goes through the hole in the lid.



Now you are ready to experiment with your Pythagoras cup! Fill the third plastic cup with water and begin to pour it into the top cup. What happens if you fill the cup below the straw? What happens if you fill the cup above the straw?



## HOW DOES IT WORK ?

The Pythagoras cup is a fun example of a syphon, a device that uses gravity to drain a container of liquid. As the cup is filled with water, the short end of the straw starts to fill up, reaching the same height as the water in the cup. Once that water level reaches the bend at the top of the straw, some of the water begins to drain down the long end of the straw due to the pull of gravity. At this point, the straw begins to act like a syphon: the draining water in the long end of the straw creates an area of low pressure at the bend in the straw. The weight of the water in the cup can now push more water into the straw, and this water rushes towards the low-pressure area, up and over the bend in the straw and out of the bottom of the cup. Once this cycle has begun, the syphon will actually drain out all of the water in the cup.

The Pythagoras cup will work like a regular cup as long as it isn't filled to its brim, but if a greedy person over-fills the cup, the syphon kicks into action and spills the entire contents of the cup onto the drinker.



# Shishukunj MUN

## makes a comeback!

Interview with Sparsh Jain,  
Secretary-General

# 2021

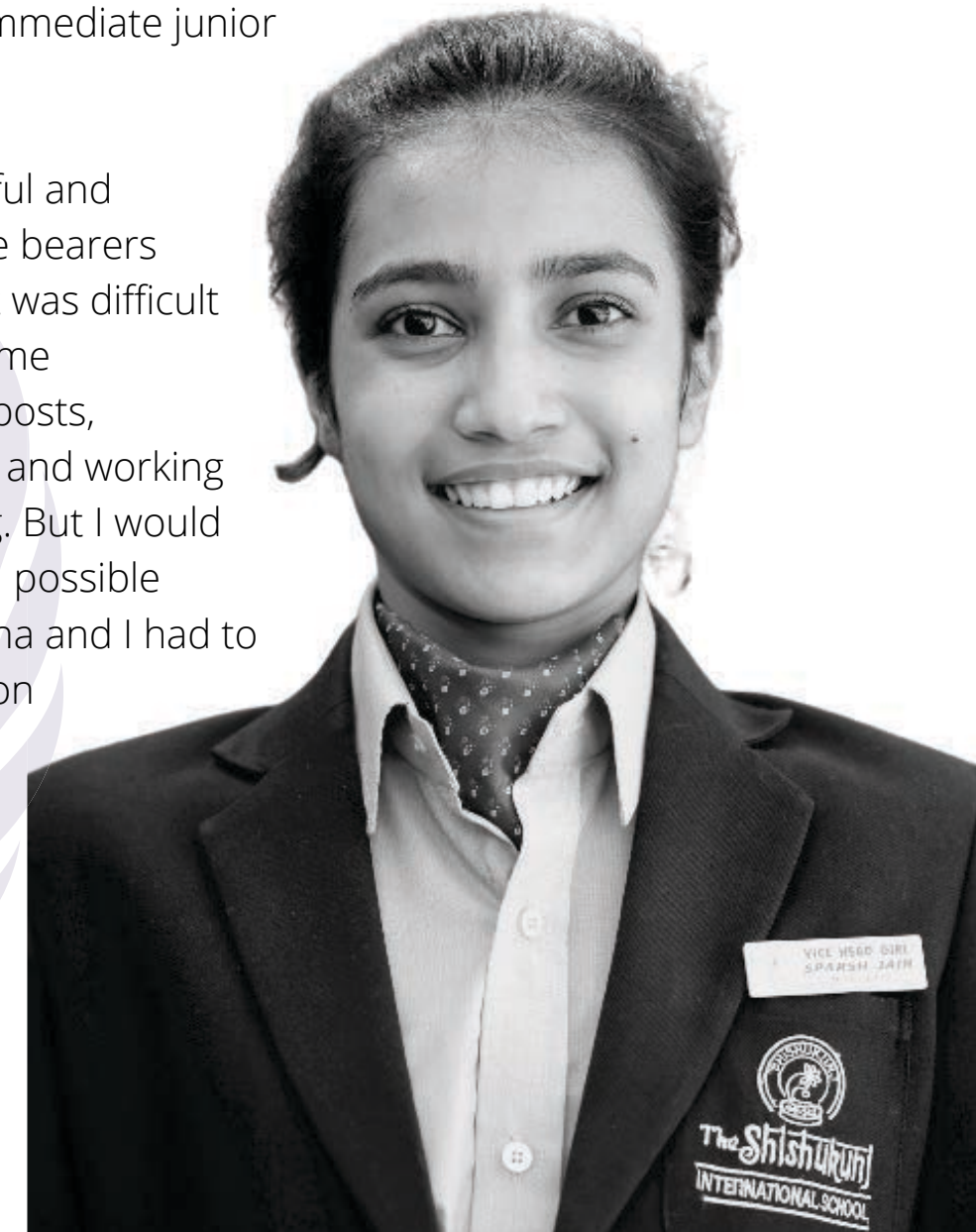
### What are some perks of being the Secretary-General?

Perks. *(chuckles)* You get to run around the school barefoot and nobody can say anything to you. You get to control a lot of things; for example, you can delay a meeting by 10-15 min if you want to finish your lunch, without anyone saying otherwise. In this way, the power you get can allow you to have your meal peacefully...on some days.

### What was something you found very challenging in this unusual MUN and could you overcome it?

We had to create an extra committee and the number of highly experienced MUNners was low in our batch and our immediate junior batch.

So we had to be really thoughtful and conscious in selecting the office bearers and giving them positions. That was difficult as all the applicants had the same experience and allotting them posts, dividing them into committees, and working with them was a bit challenging. But I would say that it would not have been possible without the USGs because Eesha and I had to do the least work and interaction with the office bearers—our problems were diminished to, like, 1% of how it would've been otherwise.



### What experience did you find best during your last Shishukunj MUN?

It's difficult to pinpoint one particular experience being the Secretary-General. However, during the conference, I remember that 5 minutes after Mrs. Khanna's message to the group, the entire team assembled together in one of the rooms in the CCA Block- all so busy and determined to improve the quality of the conference. That was the first time I'd seen the entirety of the team at one place because all the past meetings had been conducted online due to the Covid restrictions and it somehow made the entire experience better.

### What was one thing that you had expected wouldn't be possible over an online MUN but it actually became possible?

Actually, there were two things- the participation of the students and the commendable interaction maintained by the office-bearers. We did not know how much to expect from a virtual intra-school MUN but the number of enrollments we received for participation as delegates was a lot more than what we had thought it would be. We had to make separate committees for the juniors. Secondly, we did not get even one negative feedback from any of the delegates in any of the committees which was for the first time that this happened. It was a pleasant surprise.

**What was your reaction when you were permitted to call the secretariat, bureau, international press and crisis staff to school for the MUN?**

It felt like a dream come true. I was not prepared for the knowledge that this can happen. We were expecting rejection by the school but we saw a glimpse of hope when the school started. We were deciding on a hybrid mode of the conference from the beginning, examining the highs and lows of the covid-situation.

I remember Eesha and I planning and strategizing on how to go about it and our anxiety when we first approached the school, but it was very relieving to see the authorities take it positively.

I am really grateful for how the MUN turned out.

**Describe MUNning for you in three words.**

Life-changing, transformational and basically, all of my high school.

# FUDGE IT!

**Here's a yummy and easy recipe on how to make fudge. We tried to make it in our club sessions for Swaad, and were met with immediate success as everyone devoured the fudges they made. We hope you make a fudge that melts in your mouth but stays in your heart!**

## Ingredients:

- 1) Compound chocolate (dark or milk) — 350 gm/ 2 cups
- 2) Condensed milk — 1 can/ 400 gm
- 3) Butter — 2 tablespoons
- 4) Any topping of choice (Optional), e.g, almonds, walnuts, M&M's, etc. — ¼ cup

**Note: If you do not want your fudge to be too sweet or too bitter— use 1 cup of dark chocolate and 1 cup of milk chocolate.**

## Instructions:

- Grease your pan and set it aside
- Melt your chocolate
- Add condensed milk and melted butter
- If you want some crunch, add in walnuts or any topping of your choice
- Pour the fudge mixture into the prepared pan
- Refrigerate this for 3-4 hours or until completely set
- Cut into squares
- Dust some cocoa powder or powdered sugar on top

**That's it! Enjoy and share this fudge-y delight with your family and friends.**



# Abhivyakti

## Into the Realm of Public Speaking

From shipwreck to JAMs, from stand-up comedy to character portrayal, from declamation and extempore competitions to How It Got Its Name, the Abhivyakti club became a platform for the passionate expression of ideas with a scintilla of creativity and enthusiasm, allowing its members to step out of their shells and voice their opinions in a world where keeping the microphone off was not an option. Watching the dynamic lot of students discuss, talk and compete so earnestly in every club session made us feel our efforts were worth it.



The plethora of activities conducted throughout the year included debates, English to Hindi song translations, excuse-making, sarcasm, puns and whatnot. The Hindi Monologue session, with students impeccably enacting Sunny Deol's Tarikh Pe Tarikh, YJHD and SRK's 70 Minute, takes the centre stage among all the other sessions. The banter between Marvel and DC fans as well as the informal conversations between the members and the Student's Council are unforgettable.



In just six months, we have seen a remarkable improvement in their interaction and confidence. Gone are the days when they would be too shy to speak up and break the ice, and we don't miss the crickets chirping during awkward

silences even one bit. We are glad to have been a small part of this transformative process and thank all of them for their active participation.



Club Leaders: Stuti Rawat XI-A , Aarna Jain X-D, Rishi Shukla X-F, Viral Chhaperwal X-E

# The Wellness CLUB

The Wellness Club is more than just a community of students aspiring to learn about mental health and the various stigmas surrounding it— it is a safe space for Shishyans. A safe space to talk about their emotions, insecurities and express their thoughts with people who will listen, and accept.

With the pandemic and the whole world shutting down— we isolated ourselves from all kinds of activity, and even friendships became restricted. The clubs were a way for students to seek out a new way to connect with peers.

There is this one quote that we always use in all our sessions— “Fake it, till you make it”. It sounds a little cliché but once you start practising it in your daily life, you will realise that this is the key to becoming a confident person. For example, when you see someone giving a speech with full energy and confidence on the stage in front of a huge audience, you admire their skills but you do not know how loud their heart is beating at that moment. They too are anxious about the huge audience but they don’t let it show. This person faked their confidence until they made it. We can bring this into practice as well.

Even when we cannot believe in ourselves fully, the confidence others have in us may help, and we will soon grow to have faith in ourselves and be poised without needing validation from others.

The members believe that the Wellness Club with fun activities helps them answer all kinds of questions about anxiety and other mental health issues. The Wellness Club has helped us grow too. We have learned through the experiences of the students and cherished every given moment with them.

Club Leaders: Anushka Pursnani XI-E, Rakshita Sanghvi XII-B





# INTERVIEW WITH



## THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL

 Avi Shrivastava	 Samarth Ghodke	 Tamanna Chhabra	 Harshit Khandelwal	 Ananya Saggi	 Disha Gupta	 Suhani Salgia
 Sanjana Goyal	 Sandhya Bhargava	 Manvi Agrawal	 Rupika Rathore	 Japleen Chhabra	 Nirali Mahajan	 Nabh Patodi
 Anushree Sethiya	 Anjali Dhakad	 Anahita Malviya	 Punya Chowksey	 Manya Pahwa	 Sparsh Jain	 VASUNDHARA OHRI
 Martin Jose	 Dhirendra Davey	 Viva Vaidya	 Eesha Turakhia	 You		

### 1) As a primarily online functioning student council, what were some challenges that you faced in regards to the working and output on the team as a whole?

**Disha** - The previous councils which had an offline environment used to sit together to discuss and plan out various activities. With us, all of that shifted to online mode. We had to maintain the standards of our school while conducting activities that require some offline touch. Even though there was a bit of a compromise, we had a lot of fun in the online meetings. Communication with the management was very efficient too.

**Nirali** - The biggest setback of the online mode was to scrape off some activities from the list that the school had been conducting for years. For example, inter-house quizzes and wall magazines couldn't be conducted so symbol making competition was organised instead.

**Suhani** - I feel like we have missed a lot in terms of connecting with the Didis and Bhaiyas of our school. I wish we could spend a lot more time with the school authorities while working with them. But as far as the council goes, all of us have come very close.

**Sanjana** - Organising house activities was a difficult task. Students are enthusiastic about participating in house events and helping their house win. In order to keep them encouraged and motivated, we had to burn the midnight oil and rigorously plan everything out.

**Harshit** - We did not know how things would turn out online since it was the first time in the school's history that everything was going to get online.

**Punya** - We managed to have fun amidst all the chaos and tension. To overcome the stress and lighten everyone's mood in the meetings, we used to make some random jokes or talk the hind legs off a donkey on our favourite topics.

**Spارش** - I remember that my ambition of getting into the council began when I used to look at all the tall twelfth graders in badges and blue uniforms, confidently walking throughout the school alongside the authorities. I wish we had that chance to walk on the auditorium stage during the investiture ceremony or walk around the school with other students looking up to us. On the brighter side, we would not have got the chance to connect with each other on so many levels in those late-night council meetings had it been offline.

**Martin** - Whatever be the challenges, teamwork helped us overcome them and new experiences taught us to adapt. Due to all the teamwork, nothing felt difficult except for the dancing in a few competitions.

*"If I had known that I'd have to dance for competitions someday, I would have never applied for the council."*

*(Avi unable to control himself, jumps in between sarcastically commenting "If I had known that I'd have to dance for competitions someday, I would have never applied for the council.")*

*(It was quite evident that everyone's heart was filled up with certain agony, as soon as the word "dance" was mentioned when they forgot about the question and started to vent about the struggle they faced with helping boys in the council learn to dance for the Farewell and Teacher's day. It seemed like all of them had a dark past.)*

### 2) How has being a part of the Student Council aided in your personal development?

**Ananya** - Sometimes working in the council really tests your patience and your positivity. We learned to be optimistic and help each other. In the beginning, all of us were unsure about our future but eventually, it all turned out well. One learns to keep up with the deadlines and remain calm in the most stressful situations. We became a lot more understanding as well.

**Avi** - The council has taught me to become organised and balanced. One might not have a lot of time in a crisis but he'll get through it if he works two hours extra a day while completing everything that's on the list. I have also learned to stay calm in the toughest situations.

**Punya** - While being in the council, I have become multitasking. It has led to personality development and helped me build some beautiful memories.

**Anjali** - Having got a chance to work with so many people at once, I learned to include everyone and listen to others. I became a better version of myself and gained knowledge about various people in general. I became confident and comfortable talking to people.

**Suhani** - I think that being a part of the council has challenged my laziness. I feel like I'm finally back to being myself after the pandemic. I made new friends as well while in the council.

**Manvi** - I came out of my comfort zone when I pushed myself to get into the council and do something new. My communication skills developed and I started interacting with various kinds of people.

### 3) What are some perks of being in the Student Council?

**Ananya** - I think that the biggest perk of being in the council is having the chance to spend time with these twenty-two amazing people. When I was elected as a member of the council, I didn't realise what I had earned a place in. I'd also like to acknowledge the respect that we gain as council members. Sometimes students come to us asking questions like "Kal chutti hai kya?" as if we are members of the CBSE board.



**Shruti** - You get to work with the best set of people in the school (Disha interrupts “And by the best set of people she means me.” Avi cannot disagree more with Disha’s statement.)

**Nirali** - The school has provided us with a ready-made group of friends, what else can be the biggest perk?

**Martin** *(stretched on his chair, hands wide open and with a satanic smile)* - The biggest perk is that we were the first Shishyans to step into the north campus. (Punya corrects “First Shishyans to eat *mathris* in the North campus”)

**Anjali** - We got a chance to come to school even in the lockdown which made us feel special and important haha. The Council Members are treated specially. We would roam around and have fun with our friends after completing the work.

4) What is your advice or what would you like to say to someone who aspires to be a part of the council?

**Sparsh** - Just go with an open mind. School authorities know how to get the best out of everyone so if they're placing you in a group, you are capable of becoming the leader. Don't doubt yourself because even I was surprised at my capabilities when I was working with the Council. Also, know that you will have the best time of your life serving in the Council.

**Ananya** - The best way to run the Council is by not having any hierarchy. Being a head boy or head girl of the school does not mean that we are dictators. We need to listen to everyone’s opinions and cannot make the decisions ourselves. Creating boundaries between you and other council members will only lead to inefficiency of any task and neither will you be able to enjoy the journey. (Someone texted in the chat box teasing Ananya “And ironically, all of this is coming from the head girl herself.”)

**Avi** - Always be optimistic. We weren’t optimistic at the beginning of the year but eventually, everything turned out to be so well. Be patient enough and listen to others sometimes. You need to realise that school has selected twenty-three of you and not only you. You need to accept your mistakes sometimes and adjust. You will get your chance to voice your opinions and you cannot be correct every time.

**Disha** - Be open to others’ judgments. Develop your soft skills because that will help you in the long run. Teamwork and cooperation are vital. Remember to express yourself clearly because other people might misunderstand you sometimes and you might hurt someone’s feelings unknowingly.



**Shruti** - When the form for applying for the Council came out, I was in a dilemma if I should fill it. Had I not done that, I wouldn't have got the experience I have gained throughout the session. Just don't worry if you'll be able to blend in with the Council because, in the end, it will all turn out to be amazing. Every person you work with teaches you something good.

Who’s Who Tag:  
Student Council  
Edition



**Who’s the Mom of the Group?**  
Ananya

**Who’s the Dad of the Group?**  
Avi

**Who’s the Annoying Sibling?**  
Disha (Avi screams her name out) and Nirali

**Who makes everyone laugh in serious situations, or who is the clown?**  
Harshit, Punya, and Martin

**Who’s the designated meme maker of the group?**  
Tamanna

**Who in the Group is Meme Material?**  
All of them

**Who’s the Drama Queen in the Group?**  
Disha, Nabh, and Sparsh

### 5) We all know the serious and more responsible side of the Council, but we would like to know some funny behind scenes that took place.

(Unanimous demands to Martin for narrating the Mango story are made)

**Martin** - We were in a meeting with Dave sir and a few members of the school administration. This was the meeting where they told the council about our visit to the North campus, mostly to guide the parents visiting. We were all discussing whether we should go in casual attire or wear our uniform. So, Dave sir asked us if we would fit into our old uniforms or not, as it had been a while since anyone bought uniforms. And due to the pandemic, I had significantly grown in size and that was quite visible— like on my face, it was notable through my video screen on the Meet. Dave sir noticed me shying away at the fitting into uniform question and said, “Martin seems to have eaten a lot of mangoes.” It was a single joke he made, and the council never let it go. That is how I got associated with mangoes.

**Ananya** - There were memes made on the mango joke, and as a living tribute, we also want to plant a mango tree in the North campus in the name of Martin.

**Disha** - It's always nice when the administration cracks a joke, and we all laughed a lot. This joke went so far that Martin feared that he would get mangoes even for the Secret Santa we did.

**Manvi** - Speaking of Secret Santa, another moment I remember is that Nirali wished for an iPhone for the Secret Santa, and Avi literally gave her that.

**Nirali** - The rumours are true, Avi gave me the most brilliant iPhone— that is, a picture of the phone printed on a piece of paper. *(Sarcastically)* A gift I still treasure.

*"For us, there is no separation between the work of the council and our found friendship through that— it is mingled."*



**Disha** - I have another behind-the-scenes incident, when the council records the pledge for the Independence and Republic day event, we do the voice recording first. The voice recording process itself is a moment because when Avi has to say, “Extend your right hand for the pledge.” either he messes it up, and if not, the council messes the oath up. This takes us about 5-7 takes, and half of them end up as bloopers.

After we are done with the voice recording, we work on the video. This time what happened was, we were about to film the video, and everyone was standing, but Manvi was moving a little— so Martin spoke up from the back, “*Manvi, tu badi chanchal hai, yaar.*” and we all lost our poker faces. Everyone cracks up. And we ended up with one more blooper.

**Martin** - I have another moment related to our visit to the north campus. So, the school had already given us a tour of the campus so we knew where everything was so we could guide the parents. And some people forget about the location of certain buildings. So, I was heading towards the library, with about 15 parents, happily showing them around the campus facilities— and then, the person in front of me, stands in front of the library and proudly announces, “Welcome to the auditorium!”— the parents whom I was guiding were confused, the parents with the person who made the mistake were confused, and now, I think it's funny, but back then, I was flabbergasted because it clearly looked like a library, and the person, with no hesitation, called it the auditorium.

### Who's most likely to be on KBC (*Kaun Banega Crorepati*)?

Harshit, but Avi would probably host KBC

### Who's most likely to start a revolution?

Sparsh

### Who's most likely to be Prime Minister?

Avi

### Who's most likely to break out into a song?

Punya

### Who's most likely to win the Nobel Peace Prize?

Nabh

Most Likely  
To in the  
Council



## 6) Being friends and working in a team are two different things, how did you all separate or manage both those aspects of the Council?

**Disha** - For us, there is no separation between the work of the council and our friendship through that— it is mingled. But even so, what we understand is that disagreements are natural, they are a fundamental part of working in any team— disagreements are separate from our friendship, just because we disagree with the other person, doesn't mean we should hold that grudge against them as a friend. We have come to accept our disagreements and hear each other out. I think that's why we work together so well, we always try to reach a common ground.

**Martin** - Also, if the council hadn't been friends, I don't think we would have been able to work together. Especially, with the online mode, it would have been next to impossible to get the work done on the given deadlines and have fun, if we didn't enjoy each other's company.

**Sparsh** - I mean, we all want to work with our friends because it's comfortable. But I think what separates the council in that aspect is that we became friends by working together in the council and spending so much time together. Because of that, we respect each other, we know each one of us has something worthy to be in the student council. It's more than just friendship— it's mutual respect and liking.

## 7) What will you miss most about being in Shishukunj and the Council?

**Punya** - I will just say two words— Rajma Chawal.

**Sparsh** - I will have to say the Student Council.

**Disha** - For me, it has to be the teachers. I will miss them a lot.

**Shruti** - I don't think I can pick— I'll miss everything, the whole experience of going to Shishukunj will be one of the most memorable years of my life.

**Nirali** - I'll even miss all the scolding we got.

**Ananya** - I'll miss how much and how I have grown. I used to cry on every first day of school, and Punya has seen me cry for weeks because I didn't want to leave my mom and come to school. But now, I don't want to ever leave the school, I love it so much.

**Martin** *(with a knowing smile)* - I will miss all the Gazettes that were released this session— they were the best.

**Disha** *(nodding in approval)* - This is the best answer.

## Interviewers —

*Anwasha Ghosh, XI -F*

*Hrishubh Zatakia, XI-D*





"Art has the role in the education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else."

—Sydney Gurewitz

Clemens

Art and design stimulate creativity and imagination, providing visual, tactile and sensory experiences along with a special way of understanding and responding to the world. It enables students to communicate what they see, feel and think through artistic expression. The aim of Kalakriti is to provide a medium for creative members to share, learn, understand and create art that best suits them. Here is an interesting study of art by one of the most loved artists of all time— Van Gogh.

Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) was a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter, perhaps the most famous artist in the world, and is perceived by many as the 'mad' artist, the man who painted in a frenzy or simply the tormented soul who cuts off his ear. His artistic genius is often overshadowed by those who see his paintings as mere visual manifestations of his troubled mind. Whilst in part this may be true, in reality his innovative and unique artistic style was of enormous importance to a host of artists who followed in his wake. The intensity of his vision, his wonderful sense of colour, and the extraordinary boldness of his technique created masterpieces that exercise a profound influence on the art of the twentieth century.



# Van Gogh

## Interpretiong Masterpieces

### Kalakriti: The Club of Fine Arts

#### *The Starry Night*

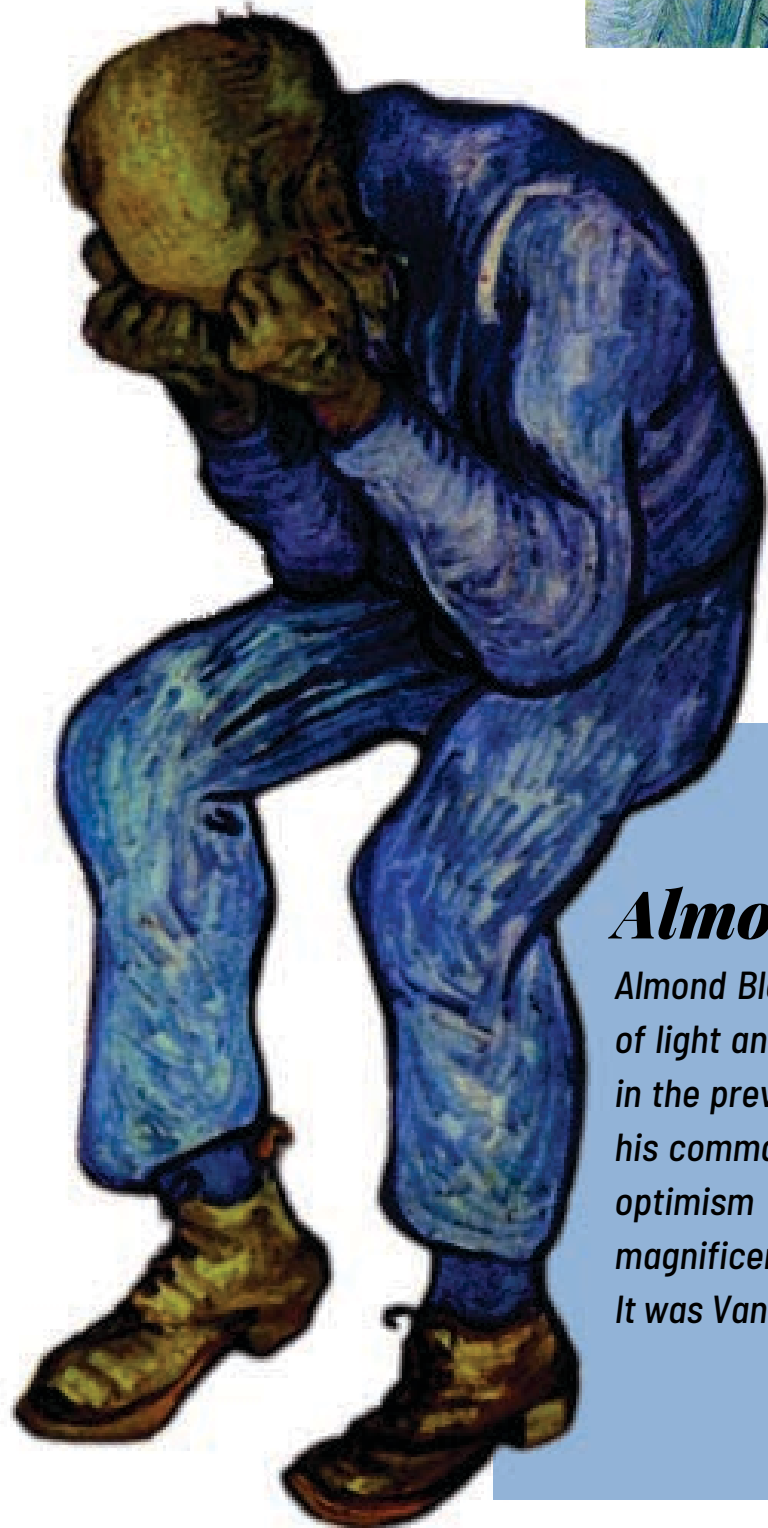
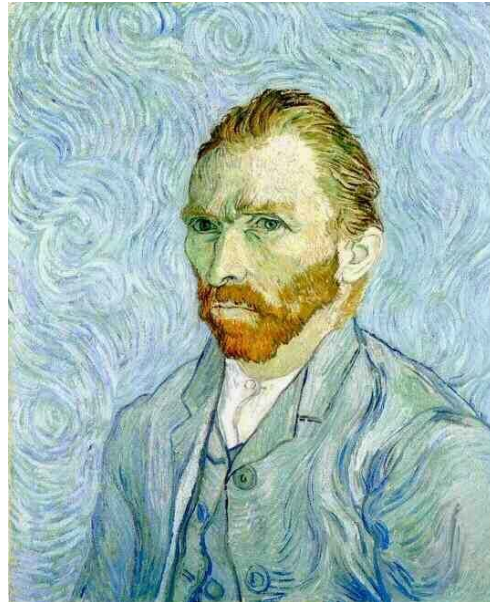
Painted in June 1889, *Starry Night* depicts a dreamy interpretation of the artist's asylum room's sweeping view of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence. Though Van Gogh revisited this scene in his work on several occasions, "Starry Night" is the only nocturnal study of the view. Thus, in addition to descriptions evident in the myriad letters he wrote to his brother, Theo, it offers a rare nighttime glimpse into what the artist saw while in isolation. "Through the iron-barred window I can make out a square of wheat in an enclosure," he wrote in May of 1889, "above which in the morning I see the sunrise in its glory."

The pigment analysis has shown that the sky was painted with ultramarine and cobalt blue, and for the stars and the moon, he employed the rare pigment Indian yellow together with zinc yellow

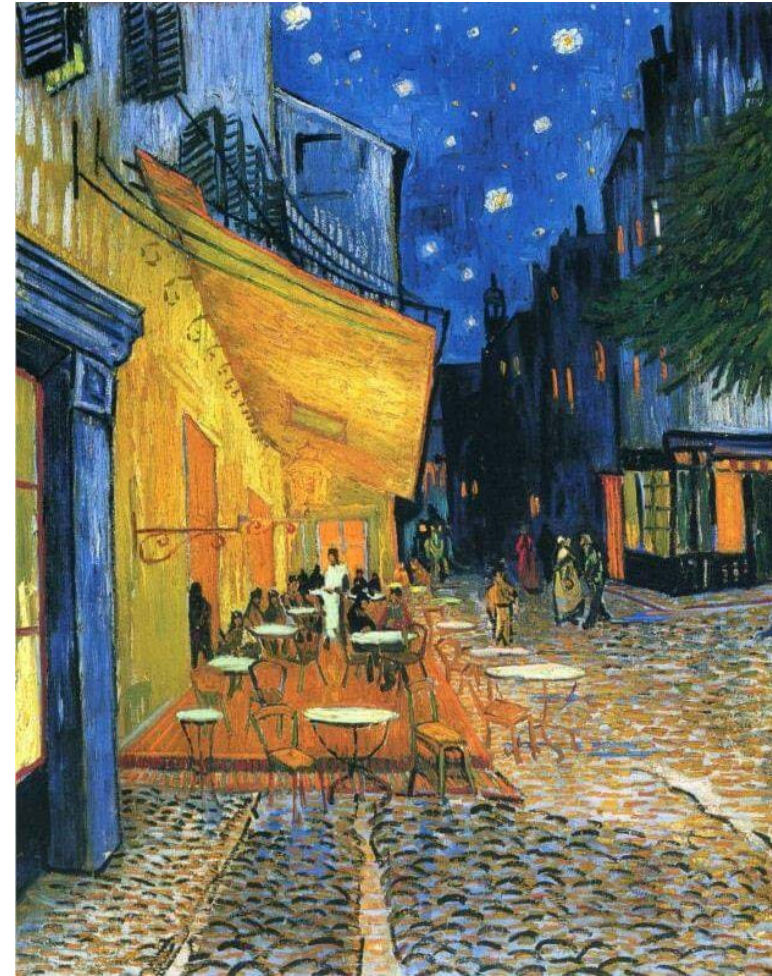


## ***The Self Portrait***

This painting was painted only months before his death in 1889. The background reminds us of the rhythms of *The Starry Night*, which the portrait resembles also in the dominating bluish tone of the work. It is a surly, almost rude and choleric face - as if the sitter had had enough of examining his features for signs of madness. This self-portrait was one of about 32 produced over a 10-year period, and these were an important part of his work as a painter. He painted himself because he often lacked the money to pay for models. He has used short and rough brush strokes here.



## ***Café Terrace at Night***



Painted in 1888, this oil painting of a colourful outdoor view is a picturesque work, the vision of a relaxed spectator who enjoys the charm of his surroundings without any moral concern. It recalls Van Gogh's mood when he wrote that "the night is more alive and more richly colored than the day." The colour is more profuse and the eye wanders along the steeped or dove-tailed edges of neighbouring areas - irregular shapes fitted to each other like a jigsaw puzzle design. Analysis about the colours used- This is a night painting without black, with nothing but beautiful blue and violet and green and in this surrounding the illuminated area colours itself sulphur pale yellow and citron green.

## ***Almond Blossom***

*Almond Blossom*, poised between lucidity and desperation, this lacework of light and colour is kept aloft by the confidence Van Gogh had acquired in the previous two or three years and the sheer technical finesse now at his command. In the openness and buoyancy of the design, we sense the optimism that the artist - despite his insurmountable condition - could magnificently translate into paint.

It was Van Gogh's gift to his newly born nephew and namesake.





## ***Six of Crows*** **by Leigh Bardugo**

*‘Kaz Brekker didn’t need a reason.’*

From the start of the book with this specific quote, till the very end of this toe-curling ride, Leigh Bardugo has proved time and again that Kaz Brekker did nothing without a reason. He’s feared by Ketterdam’s underworld, greed and cruelty had become synonymous with his name but in the darkest of nights, the whispers of his brilliant mind troubled even the fiercest of his enemies. He and his abandoned group of accomplices have lived their lives with the fates murdering any hope that dared cross them, with the world breaking them until there wasn’t much left to live for but survival. A family born under such circumstances that one murmurs prayers for their well-being in the middle of the night as the promises of 'just one more chapter' lay forgotten till sunrise.

It's a sprawling epic tale with six main characters, five points of view, intricate and rich world-building that flows effortlessly into the story, flashbacks to the characters' pasts, and a magnificent blend of horror, magic, action, humor, and romance. Bardugo lovingly and sensitively creates each of her characters, allowing them to be cunning, wicked at times, and unlikable in that multi-layered way that makes them entirely appealing. Inej, the girl who never gave up, who never forgot the true meaning of loyalty. Jesper, who strives to overcome the voices in his head that plot his downfall. The Grisha Witch, Nina Zenik, who never fails to show us how to save ourselves, and the Fjerdan who learns to love when it had been wrought out of him at a young age. And at least, we have Wylan, who finally finds a home within this puzzle of a crew.

They must first break into a heavily-guarded prison and smuggle a convict out, then attempt to break into the Ice Court - a location that has never been penetrated - all in order to obtain a large sum of money. But every one of these characters has their own personal motivations, and I believe the use of third person in *Six of Crows* was extremely effective. It allows us to see all of these personalities on an equal footing while also allowing us to be shocked on a regular basis. With unpredictable plot twists on every corner of this book, there’s no room for boredom. You don’t only enjoy the captivating plot, you learn from it, crave the sequel as if it was a lifeline, one you can’t live without. These characters were unlike any that I have ever met, and unlike any, I thought I would fall in love with.

“You can only sharpen a blade so far,” Kaz said as he joined them at the front of the church. “In the end, it comes down to the quality of the metal.” In the end, one gets hooked on the very essence of this book.

- Mahek Karnani, XII F

## ***The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*** **by Taylor Jenkins Reid**

*Heartbreak is a loss. Divorce is a piece of paper.*

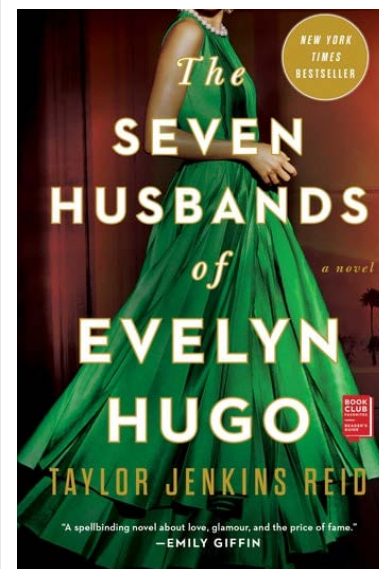
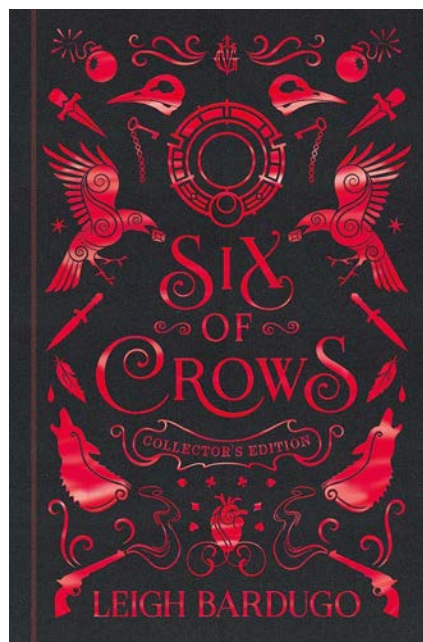
Evelyn Hugo, a woman who stole hearts of all by dominating the big screen for more than four decades, but disappeared for even longer is back to auction off her priceless gowns. However, despite her former work in the industry she stood on in her stilettos— the media and people prominently knew her for being married 7 times. With each relationship, her fame increased exponentially. With this mangled, behind the dusty spotlight, lies a woman, a human, a story— or perhaps seven. And one journalist, Monique gets the opportunity to interview her and finally make a name for herself. Monique soon realises that what she thought was a simple interview, was anything but. She was getting the story of a lifetime, the tell-all biography of the gorgeous and mysterious Evelyn Hugo. And this story would change her life as she knew it and nothing would ever be the same.

This book had me hooked just by the blurb behind it. Once I began, there was no force in the world that could stop me from finding out the story of this marvellous and stunning woman. At the first glance, one would think that this book is just another story of a woman searching for love, but instead we receive a bisexual, Cuban woman, who never got the spotlight to tell her story. And now when she has nothing to lose, the world will know about her story and the love of her life, her wife. We follow her journey, as she tells it to Monique and relives her story. A story full of loss, deception, fame, and most importantly love. We get to see that family can be found even at the grimmest of times.

While on the cover she looks like an untouchable, unattainable woman, beneath it all she is just like any of us, she longs for love, makes mistakes, and is just as broken. We also get to witness Monique’s struggles and how Evelyn influences her, the growth of her confidence, and life- revelation. In the end, she is left with hate and envy along with admiration for Evelyn. It deals with important topics like race, sexuality, and misogyny, it tells the tale of what a woman has to do to survive in a man's world. Hugo is cunning, manipulative, stunning, talented, and would go to any lengths she has to. But, beneath it all, she is a woman, who will do anything to spend her remaining days with those she loves. It is a story that you might not relate to but still can't help but love. You'll be left with admiration for Evelyn, she is a complex and well-written character, she does not regret what she did to succeed in life, and is a strong and independent woman.

- Poorvi Bhatt XI A

Club Leaders: Poorvi Bhatt XI-A, Mahek Karnani XII-F







# ***The Shishukunj Literary Society***



## ***Won't You Tell Me That I'm Ugly***

*What they don't tell you,  
is that if being fair,  
equates to being beautiful,  
then the very soil you walk on,  
is the ugliest thing in existence,  
and the universe  
should go hide its face  
somewhere.*

*What they don't tell you,  
is that if being fair  
equates to being beautiful  
then those giant banyan trees  
you hid in as children  
should be reduced to ashes  
and the earth  
should start dieting  
and starve itself to death.*

*What they don't tell you,  
is that if being fat  
means you should stay  
on the fringes of society  
then they should take a spaceship  
and find a fair, slim, and curvy planet  
to live on because the earth  
was made for, made of, and made from  
imperfections.*

*So you tell me  
I'm not slim,  
I'm not fair,  
I'm not a perfect barbie doll,  
Will you accept me?*

*Because  
I  
Am  
You.*

*—Rashi Soni, VIII-F*

**Club Leaders - Aaheli Roy X-A, Prashast Choubey XI-E, Riya Sheth X-F**

# Gazette Playlist



Day 1 — HONNE

A Good Song Never Dies — Saint Motel

Agoraphobia — Autoheart

Stay Alive — Jungkook

Taking Pictures of You — The Kooks

Arabella — Arctic Monkeys

PS5 — salem ilese, TOMORROW X

TOGETHER, Alan Walker

Evergreen — August Kamp, Joshua

Bassett

People Need a Melody — The Head and  
the Heart

Good Together — Shallou, Ashe

Movie — Blake Rose

don't fall — 44phantom

Happiness is a butterfly — Lana del Rey