

# Friday

NOVEMBER 2013

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*The heart of education is educating the heart.*



**Atmiya Vidya Mandir**  
International Residential School for Boys



ભણનાર ઢીકરાઓ સુખી થાય,  
એમનો આત્મા સુખી થાય,  
એમના માવતર સુખી થાય  
અને સમાજ સુખી થાય  
એટલા માટે  
આત્મીય વિદ્યામંદિર.

- પ્રગટ ગુરુહરિ પ.પૂ. હરિપ્રસાદસ્વામીજી મહારાજ

Dear Reader,  
Namaste!

These are eventful times for India, our glorious nation, as it steers forward through the weeds of political inefficiency and the tempests of uncertainty in social relationships. Meanwhile, we quietly and assuredly continue to step beyond our infancy as a school, completing 10 years of our existence attempting to eliminate those weeds and strengthen the relationships.

We'd like to extend the pleasure we find in seeing our children grow and succeed by battling through the hardships, with all of you, and would like to thank and congratulate you for being a critical part of this process. As you'll see in the academic and sports results highlighted in this magazine, the school has witnessed some astounding results in this decennial year. Yet, we continue striving for the academic excellence benchmark of minimum 70% for all students, set forth by our founder His Holiness Hariprasad Swamiji and anticipate your support in the same.

More importantly, we strive cautiously and with faith to achieve an even stiffer target set by Swamishree of instilling values in our students. The assemblies and the various activities conducted by the school are briefly summarised in this volume and these are the milestones in this arduous journey for which Atmiya Vidya Mandir exists in the first place. The information explosion and the superficially tempting social networking mediums have resulted in greater challenges for schools and parents to help the child understand and discriminate between the right and the wrong.

Although this journey is challenging, yet the association of a saint makes the path very clear and gratifying.

Guruhari Swamishree, even at the age of 80, tirelessly continues to train and inspire the staff and students to work on both, the academic and cultural aspects. It is His guidance and blessings and the grace of God that have made the various achievements possible for the school involving transformation of many young and old. This process becomes even more efficient with the collaboration between parents and teachers to work with the common goal of crafting such morally and spiritually strong individuals. Read the *Parenting Partnership* article to see how you could support us as parents in this much needed task of the hour.

The school's English department has been proactively working to help develop the very essential language skills in our students as you'll see from the *AVM Debating Club Report* and the thought provoking article on reading. This issue brings to you the message that much more significant advancement can be made if a student develops the habit of reading and practice. We appeal to you to join us in this movement of encouraging the youth of today to develop these very important habits.

Finally, this volume of Hriday is also an abridged version of the details of efforts of the students, teachers and every other staff member of the school during the period April to October 2013. Please visit [blog.avm.edu.in](http://blog.avm.edu.in) for more information on these activities and the school's YouTube channel on [video.avm.edu.in](http://video.avm.edu.in) for the videos of the creative assemblies and other celebrations.

Thanks again for your patronage and happy reading!

- Prajval Sir

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## AVM OUTLIER

Creative Assembly is one of the most awaited events at AVM, performed under the flagship of four houses. Participation in these creative assemblies is always a central attraction for students, since its preparation presents a lot of opportunities full of both fun and challenges. It involves developing new skills, practising dialogues, recording the script and drama rehearsal. Ultimately, they are excellent avenues to imbibe values.

Let's uncover one out of the many observations of teachers during the making of one such assembly. During the dialogue recording sessions of the creative assembly on Mahabharat, Geetgauravbhai Joshi of class 6, who was performing Arjun's role, displayed a rare quality of being unaffected by his surroundings. He was given around 12 minutes of dialogues out of the total 28 minutes long drama. He was the lead character and the script was written around his role. It was obvious that any mistake in his dialogue recording would affect the entire drama. But he was composed and self-confident when Suhradam Sir began recording. Upon his turn, he would speak his line or two and sit back on his chair when others have their turn. The other teachers present there noticed that Geetgauravbhai went into deep thought every time he finished his dialogue recording. On seeing him like this, I asked him whether he was sick, to which he replied that he was all right. When I further inquired

about what he was thinking so deeply about, he responded, "Sir, I am thinking about how to score above 90% marks in my SA-1 exam as I have not been able to do that in any of the past exams." Everyone present were amazed by his reply and it was time for the listeners to go into deep thought about how an 11 years old boy could think about achieving excellence in his studies even in the midst of a critical phase of a co-curricular activity!

The answer is surprisingly straightforward, at least for the teachers, staff and the parents of the school.

*Guruhari Swamishree has instilled this value in the students that aiming for excellence is of paramount importance in one's life.*

And this imbibed value reflects in the students of AVM which keep them focussed on their goal even when they are engrossed in co-curricular activities.

On the 1st day of drama rehearsal, Geetgauravbhai asked Suhradam Sir if he could carry his books so that he could study whenever he finds some time during the rehearsal. It was

loud and clear as to why he wanted to utilise his time during the drama practice too. This clearly shows that for a student like him, 'TIME' is the most expensive currency in life and especially here at AVM. On the final day of live performance of creative assembly, the participants reported one hour early so that they could be dressed-up according to their characters in the drama. Geetgauravbhai being a lead character was dressed-up first and he had 20 minutes to spare before the performance would begin. He did not want his "currency" to go astray. He approached Priyavadan Sir and asked him if he could go to the temple adjacent to stage in the prayer hall and do prayer for those 20 minutes. It was far beyond our imagination that a child performing the lead role in front of the whole school would prefer to spend his last 20 minutes in front of God instead of going through his script or worrying about his costumes!

The purpose of education is to discover the purpose of life. Geetgauravbhai, a merely 11 year old student of AVM, discovered the purpose of a student's life and that is to stay connected to his objective as a student. This story of a 6th grader simply suggests that he is a distinct achiever.

I would simply call him an '*Outlier*' for his age.

- Purvesh Sir



## THE PARENTING PARTNERSHIP: Making the good things better

At AVM, what brings the parents and teachers on a common platform is their mutual concern to prepare children for life-long learning by acquiring the knowledge, skills and values which eventually enable them to make right choices. Every time when the school reopens, the responsibility shifts, as the children come to us at their home away from home. Hereafter, we teachers become their foster parents; we feel equally attached to the children and are ready to offer our utmost effort and time even beyond the confines of the classroom. Every child under our care is valuable and no matter how time consuming, attention demanding and physically draining it turns out to be, we never let him be on his own in the time of need. Throughout the school year, we use a variety of communication methods to build and sustain solid relationships with the child to closely analyse his subtle behaviours which help us to know him well and to make him better.



We minutely observe and assist these children to follow a strong value system, a support system necessary for their character building, helping them to create an aura around them which protects them from bad influences. But the real challenge for us begins when many of our children get free access to alluring things like inappropriate movies and TV shows during vacation, through which, they are exposed to negative influences. At this delicate point, it is important as a parent to filter the material accessed by the kids. If a child comes back to the school after vacation, along with all the distracting stuff lingering in his mind, it becomes difficult for him to maintain focus during studies. From years of experience and observation, the teachers/staff of our school report that it takes a week or two or sometimes even more for such children to get back in the rhythm of the school system after they come back from vacation. If you and we make joint efforts in ex-

plaining and guiding our children to be aware of the long-term harm of inappropriate content, it can definitely help them in their studies and character-building.

*Nurturing kids is a cohesive process, which requires contributions from parents and teachers, both.*

It is imperative that we discuss your input in this joint venture, as parents and family have, by far the most important influences in a child's life.



Let me share with you a few outlines which could help you collaborate with us to develop social, emotional and academic competencies of our children:

### **Right choice of movies and TV shows:**

In today's time, it is necessary for us to safe guard our children from diverting TV programmes and inappropriate movies. If we guide them and help them to choose carefully what they watch on TV or what type of movies they select, it will definitely be more rewarding for them. If needed, we can suggest you a list of movies or TV programmes recommended for them.

### **Video games are not Okay:**



There are many fun and engaging video games out there that actually help children move around, develop social skills and learn. However, not all video games are helpful. If a child becomes a video-game fanatic in the vacation, and afterwards, when he comes back to school, he loses interest in doing something on his own or exploring a good book or many other ways and means of entertainment which the school offers them later.



### **Kids and Computers:**

Our main concern is that too much time in front of a computer screen is unrewarding. Since their use of computers at school is completely academic and restricted, it is understandable that a child would tend to spend a lot of time in front of computer during vacation. The first step in helping children interact with computers in a safe, healthy way is to develop a computer usage policy that reflects your family values and understanding of your child's maturity level and needs.

### **T.I.M.E. for them:**

**Talk :** Keeping an open line of communication builds trust. It shows your children that your goal is not to restrict their freedom, but to protect and prepare them against something harmful.



**Instruct :** It is better to guide our children how to tweet, blog, chat and use the computer in a safe,

healthy way by setting clear expectations about where, when and what they can do online at home.

**Monitor :** It is good to monitor what our children are texting, tweeting, watching and playing while they are on their cell phones or using other gadgets.



**Encourage :** Catch them right and reinforce the positive behaviour when they say 'sorry', 'thank you' or when they help you in chores or when they pray regularly.



In this manner, your involvement in child's education could go beyond contributing cookies for birthday celebration or attending Parent-Teacher meetings or enquiring about their food and facilities at school during phone calls. Knowing that you and we are valuable allies in preparing them for life, lets our children know that, whether they are with us or with you, we have the same concerns, same expectations and same disciplinary measures for them.

So what are your plans for your children in the next vacation?

- Seema Ma'am

## IMBIBING THE PASSION OF READING IN CHILDREN

All of us want our children to become the best users of the English Language. We want our children to stand up to a huge audience confidently, so that the audience listens to their every word. They share a funny story and the audience laughs. At the end they get a warm round of applause and people come and appreciate their speech. Surprisingly, not all children reach this point. Why?

Research indicates that the single most important thing to develop these skills in children is to instil in them the love for reading. Renowned educationists and child psychologists suggest that a child's IQ, Critical Thinking and Analytical Reasoning skills increase considerably with broad reading. In a survey conducted by the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) published in 2009, the Chinese students were the best in the world at reading and United States stood at number 15. India was not a part of the survey, however you will not disagree that, if we had been surveyed, we would have been fighting for the last spot on the table.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi understands this need to infuse life-long reading habits in children and therefore they have included a Long Reading book from standard 9th to 12th in their syllabus. In the past, it was a tradition in most homes to read bed-time stories to children. This tradition has almost wiped-out with the advent of technology. Children tend to spend more time watching T.V., playing video games, listening to mu-

sic or being hooked to social media (Facebook), etc. Many schools including Atmiya Vidya Mandir know that instilling the hunger for reading in children has to start in the formative years. Therefore, the academic team of Atmiya Vidya Mandir made a Long Reading book compulsory from standard 1st to 12th. We



also celebrated a week aptly called 'Readers are Leaders' in which students were exposed to the different genres of books they can read. Students and teachers explained the importance of reading good books through presentations, speeches, soft board displays and personal interactions.

The AVM debating club is also helping the children become better listeners, speakers, readers and writers of the English language. The students of 11th standard also read books outside the syllabus on current topics including but not limited to Management, Economics and Leadership and they share this knowledge with the children of the school through scintillating and enlightening presentations.

You may be wondering what we parents could do to instil the love for reading, when most of the time our children are at the school. However, by the time you have read this article you must have calculated that about 150 days of the year your beloved children are at home in your most loving company. Wow! You are already thinking we want to make our children love books. But how?

Let us now list some important ways in which you can do that:

1. Read to your child from the earliest days.
2. Read to your child as often as possible.
3. To start with, read what interests them.
4. Build a home library and keep good reading material around which children can see.
5. Take children to libraries and bookstores.
6. Don't stop reading to him once he learns to read.
7. Ritualize daily reading time.
8. Help him reach the next level.
9. Help him by reading alternate pages yourself.





10. Try smart comics for reluctant readers. (Tin Tin, Calvin and Hobbes, etc.)
11. Read yourself. (role modelling)
12. Limit technology, TV and gaming.
13. On gift-giving occasions, give books and magazines based on your child's current interests.
14. Extend your child's positive reading experiences. For example, if your youngster enjoyed a book about animals, follow up with a visit to a Zoo.

Research suggests that the following tactics only strengthen a child's resistance to reading:

1. Nagging
2. Bribing
3. Judging your child's performance
4. Criticizing your child's choices
5. Setting unrealistic goals
6. Making a big deal about reading

Reasons kids may give for not reading:

1. It's boring
2. I don't have the time
3. It's too hard
4. It's not important
5. It's no fun

Now as parents we know what to do and what not to do in encouraging our young ones to read.

Charles Jones said,

*“What you will become five years from now will be determined by what you read & who you associate with.”*

All successful people are insatiable readers and boast to have huge libraries. This list is endless, but the story of this one person will etch your mind. A person, who went from failure to failure, never gave up and became the 16th president of the United States of America.

Mr. Abraham Lincoln was from an extremely poor family but an avid reader. In those days, books were rare and only to be found with the rich. Once Mr. Lincoln borrowed a book from his neighbour and in the night he slept reading the book in the dim light of the can-



dle. A rain storm came in the night, soaked and spoilt the book. He asked his neighbour how he could repay the price of the book, the neighbour asked him to work for three days in the farm. He did the work, though it was worth more than the true price of the book and kept the spoilt book with him. Such was his love for books and one for sure which made him successful.



Ah! The head of Atmiyabhai is in the lap of his mother and she is reading the story of the great Indian King Vikramaditya. His eyes are wide open and his mother can feel his excitement by the movement of his feet and hands. He interrupts his mother from time to time and asks intelligent questions. Atmiyabhai's mom has just taken the first step to uncover the mysteries of life together and developing a life-long reader.

We wish you all a very happy and momentous journey of life with lots of fun, learning, reading and rejuvenating with our kids.

- Prajval Sir

## VALUES: Heartbeat of AVM

Over the past few years, the demographic of India is rapidly changing. Once a very large rural country like India is now briskly urbanizing. People are quickly realising that without education they cannot make a respectful living. As a consequence, education is looked upon merely as a tool which can drive the individual towards a career which can in turn provide all the comforts of life.

In ancient times, education was looked upon as a way to true happiness. Knowledge was acquired so that an individual can distinguish between right and wrong. The cultural and moral values were at the forefront of education. But can we say the same in the contemporary environment?



Today, too much emphasis is put only on academics and skills and not on the value system in education. If academics and skills are the only two important things then people like Rajat Gupta (who was a managing director of a hugely successful company), Lance Armstrong (a rare breed of fighters who fought against an impossible cancer with his sheer willpower) and a talented Sreesanth would have been very happy and also role models for millions. But the reality is that their flawed character made them pay a huge price. Probably that is the reason why one of the greatest minds of our times Albert Einstein said: Unless we rediscover the core of education, all the efforts to improve education will go in vain.

*“Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.”*

The foundation of any culture or society cannot be an education without the core values and in order to offer precisely that to the society, Guruhari Hariprasad Swamiji established AVM. He emphasised the need to strengthen the character of individuals to strengthen the society. Values can be taught effectively by practising them on a daily basis and integrating them with various activities.

And therefore, one of the most important events at AVM is the daily assembly. Morning assembly is a part of any decent school anywhere in the world and it holds a lot of significance at AVM due to the fact that values are celebrated through these daily assemblies. Every week, each house (Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram, and Suhradam) is given a value. Students and teachers that belong to that house, research on the value and contemplate various aspects of the value. Through the medium of speeches, presentations, skits, etc. the values are presented in such a way that the students can relate to them and understand their importance. Below is the list of values that have been celebrated so far in this academic year 2013-14:

1. The Power of habits
2. विद्या विनयेन शोभते
3. Readers are Leaders...Leaders are Readers
4. 101 tales of wisdom as told by Yogiji Maharaj
5. Abraham Lincoln: Life and message
6. The Immortal characters of Ramayan
7. How do smart people use the Internet?
8. Civic duties of the contemporary Indian
9. The wisdom and teachings of Mahabharat
10. Work while you work & play while you play
11. निशान यूक माइ, नहि माइ नीरुं निशान

Such diverse range of topics not only helps imbibe the basic knowledge of Indian culture and heritage but also gives the opportunity to the students to develop a very strong character. The discussions on such topics are not limited to the assembly hall as the teachers and mentors try to explain such values with appropriate examples throughout the week. Implementation of such values in life is more important than merely knowing them, but the transformation of students at AVM explains the significance of implementation of these values.

In this age of information, knowledge and facts are available on the finger tips, but the willingness of students to filter out that information and derive only the useful things and discard unnecessary things speak volumes of the character of AVM students. In a nutshell, the value system at AVM is the heart beat of all our activities. In this modern era, when the development of mind and intellect has taken precedence, it is important for us to realise that, in order to impart true education, the mind, intellect and soul must be purified.

And that is why Guruhari Swamiji defines true education as the one which unifies and sanctifies the body, mind and soul.

- Priyavadan Sir

## Tint of festivity rolling down exam fervour

As a refreshing spring cools the landscape, after a brief dwelling of examination across a thorough schedule, Atmiya Vidya Mandir cut loose for a day of curl and general hilarity. The cheer of festive elation lit up students' faces as Holi was celebrated. As the Atmiyans dressed up in myriad hues of the festival of colours of Holi, all rejoiced in the festivities of the season.

It was a day filled with colours, fun, frolic, enthusiasm and above all happiness.



## Art explosion by creative geniuses of AVM



Students of Std 1 to 6 participated in an art and craft workshop wherein the specially trained staff, experts and artisans from Pidilite, along with the school's hostel staff and Manish Sir, instructed and guided the students to explore their imagination in a different way.

The muddle of mixed paints, the mess of palates and brushes, the numerous innovation of unborn shades with some spills and no clean up, nearly novel designs and new patterns, it was all free self-expression and spontaneity under creative process.

Thus, this workshop increased art skills and self-discovery of the students to relieve creative blocks.

- Seema Ma'am





## UDAAN 2013: Farewell to the seniors

Some human emotions are very complex. When someone is happy or sad you can see that on the face and we can also distinctly feel that. But then there are certain emotions which we neither understand nor do we know how to express them. Farewell is one of those events which can be better expressed as a roller coaster of emotions.



On one hand, as a school we are very proud of how the students have turned out ever since they joined the school, and we feel very confident about their success when they go out in this world. On the other hand, there is this big void we feel when we realise that we will not be able to see these students so frequently now.

This year's farewell was all about celebrating the different personalities of the outgoing 31 students of class 12. There was a sense of excitement, pride, enthusiasm and lots of energy in building up to the final event of the year. The students of class 11 poured in their hearts in preparing for this event as a tribute to their senior brothers.

- Tarun Sir

## Sun does a hats off to the budding AVM cricketers

The annual T20 cricket league has become more of a tradition at AVM, played at the onset of the summer, after the students see through the challenging year end exams and when they are looking forward to the approaching summer vacation. It is a delight to watch the young wonders perform so enthusiastically on the field under the hot sun. They were divided into different teams named after popular IPL teams. Captains were chosen by the sports department to lead their respective teams. The event was divided into three groups:

- Yogi Premiere League (YPL for class 4, 5),
- Bhoolku Premiere League (BPL for class 6, 7) and
- Atmiya Premiere League (APL for class 8, 9).

Students and teachers showed tremendous amount of enthusiasm in the scorching heat to play the game that the whole of India loves the most. Teams showed amazing spirit and technical knowledge of the game during the matches. In the battle of ball and bat new heroes arose with their spectacular performances and became popular in the crowd.

- Sports Team



## An Indispensable Collaboration for a Child's Success: Parent-Teacher Meetings



In order to help a child be aware of his strengths and weaknesses and to help him make the most of learning opportunities, it is inevitable that there be a dialogue between the teachers and the parents.

At AVM, the parent-teacher meetings are events where one witnesses the *bhagirathi* efforts put in by parents and teachers, together, for the betterment of every child. These meetings have greatly helped the teachers to understand the child better and hence, have been a source of new ideas for the school to serve the children better.

- Paramrut Sir



## Student Council Elections



School is a basic platform to initiate the ability to become a responsible citizen of the nation. The concept of integrity and unity are taught by grouping students together on an equal ground of election. To experience this very important process first-hand, the Student Council has been set up wherein students can show their active participation by recognizing their duty towards school, friends, teachers and further, in future, to the nation. As a result, every child got an opportunity to support his leader.

The process entailed nomination, campaigning, polling and declaration of results leading to a team of newly elected student leaders of the Student Council 2013-14.

## INVESTITURE CEREMONY



On the pleasant morning of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2013, admirable young talents of AVM were bestowed responsibility of serving the school with their capability, efficiency and more over with devotion.

The Investiture Ceremony, thus marked the initiation of the student council for the academic session 2013-14. Designations were assigned with an official title to the Head Boy, the Vice Head Boy and the Sports Captain. The House Captains and the Vice-Captains of all the four houses were provided with the respective ranks and deserved rights. The newly elected student council



members for the year 2013-14 are as follows:

**Head Boy:** Sachin Verlekar  
**Vice Head Boy:** Dhwanit Tamboli  
**Sports Captain:** Nirmal Patel

**Satyam House**  
 Captain: Sumit Choudhary  
 Vice Captain: Jagrat Gada

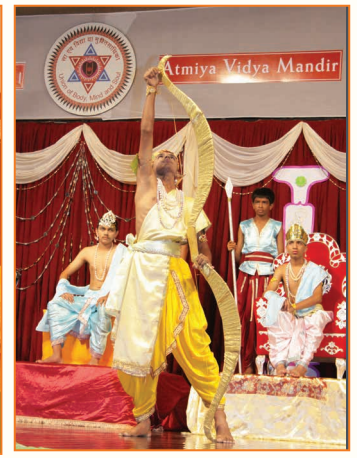
**Shivam House**  
 Captain: Dhaval Jariwala  
 Vice Captain: Sarvanaman Patel

**Sundaram House**  
 Captain: Arpit Trapasiya  
 Vice Captain: Nimit Patel

**Suhradam House**  
 Captain: Harsh Gondalia  
 Vice Captain: Rahul Patel



- Rashmi Ma'am



Visual and Spatial Intelligence Competition

## विद्या विनयेन शोभते

विद्यालय के सत्यम् हाउस ने ८ जुलाई से प्रारंभ हुए सप्ताह को, विद्यार्थी के जीवन में अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण “विनय” नामक मूल्य का वर्णन करते हुए संपन्न किया। सप्ताह भर विद्यालय की प्रार्थना सभा में विस्तारपूर्वक विनय का महत्व समझाया गया। विद्यालय के व्यवस्था-तंत्र के अनुसार, सत्यम् हाउस को विनय नामक मूल्य पर आधारित एक लघु नाटिका “विद्या विनयेन शोभते” प्रस्तुत करने का मौका मिला। सत्यम् हाउस के सभी सदस्यों ने आत्मीयता से विचारों का आदान-प्रदान कर के विद्यालय के नृत्य-निर्देशक श्रीमान मृणाल नायक के मार्गदर्शन अनुसार इस नाटक को प्रस्तुत करने का नम्र प्रयास किया।

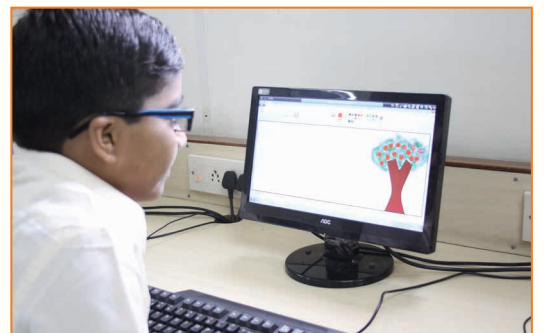
- Pushpak Sir

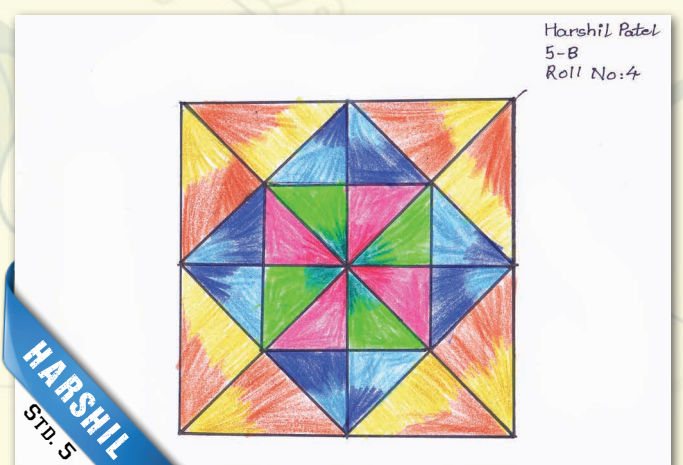
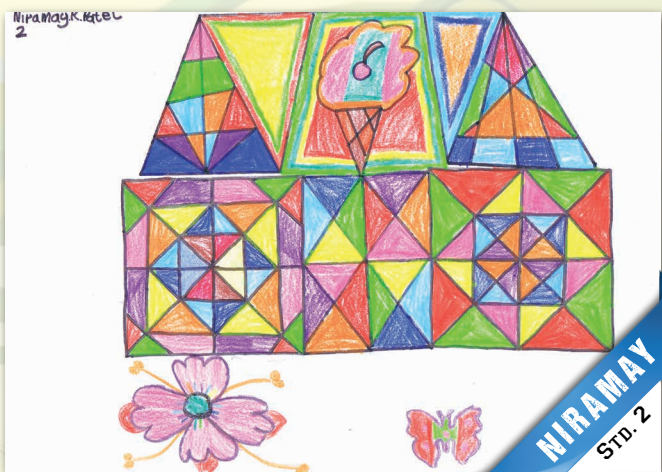
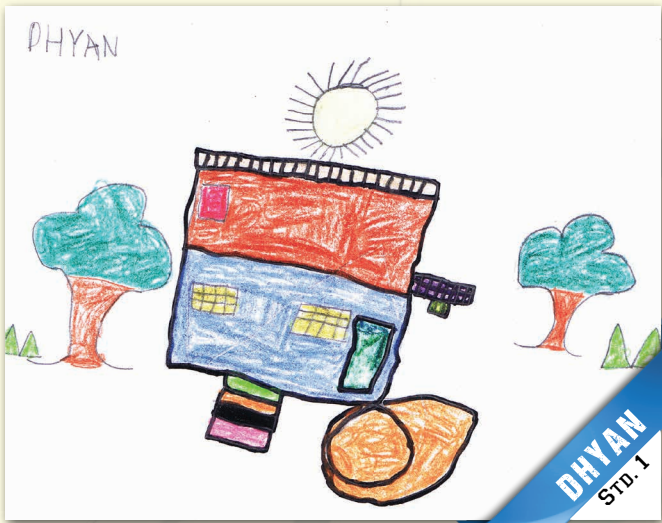


The first-of-its-kind-competition for the school was conducted on 20th July 2013 with the following themes:

- **Mask making-** It was a fun activity of making a mask of any creature with paper to show various moods of different creatures.
- **Greeting card on computer-** It displayed the imagination of students by designing birthday cards, poster and PPTs on the given topics.
- **Best out of waste-** It helped students to come out with their innovations in finding out the usefulness of the waste materials.
- **Collage making-** It assisted students with the art of creating the complete image from the separated and deserted parts.

- Rashmi Ma'am









## Inter House Carrom Competition

The only downside of rain is no outdoor sports, but that encourages the indoor sports. There are few indoor games which are very exciting as well as can match excitement of any outdoor sports. Carrom certainly fits that category.

Although carrom is played regularly at AVM, the students enjoyed the first ever Inter House Carrom Competition in the second half of July 2013. Students took part in pairs and compete amongst themselves to be short-listed from their respective houses for the knockout rounds, eventually leading to the semi-finals and the final.

- Hemant Sir & Kalpesh Sir



## Celebrating the Bliss bestowed by Guru

When we are oblivious of the purpose of life and get more and more entangled in various attraction of physical world, we are limited with our senses and our mind cannot comprehend either our purpose or ways to achieve it, hence we live aimlessly until we meet our Guru who helps us define our path and our life's purpose.

Gurupurnima is the day to offer our gratitude towards our Guru, gain His blessings and reaffirm our loyalty towards Him. All the members of AVM family celebrated Gurupurnima on Sunday 21st July 2013 in the presence of saints from Haridham.

- Seema Ma'am





## Practice double nahi to trouble

Inspired by the 101 Tales of Wisdom as told by P.P. Yogiji Maharaj, Suhradam House put in a humble attempt to pick a few pearls of wisdom from the ocean of invaluable stories of wisdom narrated by Him.

The book comprises of stories beautifully painted by Yogiji Maharaj in a lucid and unadulterated language. Reading of this book makes it easy for people of all ages to understand the deep messages of wisdom which can be applied in their daily life. The creative assembly drama revolved around the life of a student and had two tales of wisdom integrated so as to convey a very simple, relevant and clear messages to the students: “*Practice double, nahi to trouble*”.

- Nirali Ma'am



## Inter House Table Tennis Competition

The all-time favourite Inter House Table Tennis Tournament went off in style at Atmiya Vidya Mandir on 29th July 2013. The participants, after practicing for a long time, were all set to compete, striving for victory. The school TT coach, Devang Sir had put in the most efforts of all helping the students master various essential skills needed for the game.

The tournament lasted for almost a week and each day each game was so narrowing that the level up could be felt. Each competitor was so confident, so enthusiastic that defeat was a hard taste to each one of them. But in the end, only a few were able to pave their way to the top, defeating the players but not their spirits.

- Devang Sir & Vishesh Mistry (II Sci)



## Verbal & Linguistic Intelligence Competition

The power of language is immense and intense. And, the best way to acquire it, is by its daily use. As an attempt to empower the different skills of language, AVM arranged an activity based on one of the aspects of Multiple Intelligence – the Inter House Verbal and Linguistic Competition. The competition was organised grade wise and house wise. The competitions were managed by the language teachers and judges were called to assess the competition. The Languages Team arranged the following competitions to explore various language skills.



- Story Telling (Std. 1-3)
- Newspaper Reading (Std. 4-6)
- Crossword Puzzle Creation (Std. 7-8)
- Gujarati-Hindi Translation (Std. 9-10)

The students participated with full zeal and vigour to win, yet focused to perform the best.

- Chirag Sir



## The Immortal Characters of RAMAYAN

Ramayan is the epic which has mingled with our conscience because of the ideas and values the characters have exhibited through their life. Ramayan pictures the whole gamut of life of an individual in various aspects. It was a privilege for the members of Shivam House to commemorate, understand and learn to apply the teachings of this wonderful epic in our life.

Throughout the week, the students and teachers of Shivam House explained the significance of characters like Hanumanji, Lakshmanji, Kaushalyaji, Sitaji, Shabriji and Vibhishanji through videos and thoughtful speeches. The last day of the week, Saturday, was a creative assembly in which, a Hindi play “*Jaisa Sang Waisa Rang*”, was presented depicting the importance of good company in one’s life. Furthermore, the drama portrayed the qualities of Lord Ram as an ideal son and brother and also brought to light the selfless love of Prince Bharat.

- Prabhudarshan Sir





## જન્માષ્ટમી

આ વર્ષે પણ આત્મીય વિદ્યામંદિરમાં જન્માષ્ટમીનો તહેવાર ખૂબ ધામધૂમથી ઊજવવામાં આવ્યો. શ્રીકૃષ્ણ ભગવાનના અત્યંત પવિત્ર જન્મદિન નિમિત્તે તેમના અગણિત ગુણોને યાદ કરીને, પવને આનંદથી ઊજવવા માટે રાત્રે ભજન સંધ્યાનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું, જેમાં નાનાં નાનાં ભૂલકાંઓએ ઉલ્લાસમય સ્વરે ભગવાન શ્રીકૃષ્ણની બાળલીલા ગાઈ હતી. ત્યારબાદ પંજરીનો પ્રસાદ વહેંચવામાં આવ્યો હતો.

બીજા દિવસે સાંજના ફૂટબોલ ગ્રાઉન્ડ ઉપર મટકીફોડના કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું. શ્રીઠાકોરણની પૂજનવિધિ બાદ દર્હી, માખણ, મધ તથા ચોકલેટથી ભરેલી મટકી ફોડવાનો કાર્યક્રમ “જય રણછોડ માખણચોર”, “નંદ ઘેર આનંદ ભયો, જય કનૈયા લાલકી” ના નારાથી શરૂ થયો. જેમાં પ્રથમ મટકી ધોરણ ૧, ૨, ૩; બીજી મટકી ધોરણ ૪, ૫, ૬; ત્રીજી મટકી ધોરણ ૭, ૮, ૯ તથા ચોથી મટકી ધોરણ ૧૦, ૧૧, ૧૨ના વિદ્યાર્થીઓ દ્વારા ફોડવામાં આવી. આમ, કૃષ્ણ જન્મોત્સવ તથા મટકીફોડના કાર્યક્રમની ઉજવણી ખૂબ જ શ્રદ્ધા અને ભક્તિભાવપૂર્વક કરવામાં આવી. જન્માષ્ટમીનો ઉત્સવ ફક્ત વિદ્યાર્થીઓના આનંદ માટે જ નહિ, પણ તેમને ભારતીય સંસ્કૃતિનું ધાર્મિક મહત્વ બતાવવા માટે રહ્યો.

- Gautam Sir



## Wisdom and Teachings of MAHABHARAT ( Where there is Vasudev, there is Victory )



In this fast pacing 21st century world which is chiefly swayed by the association of man and machine, an epic like Mahabharat and its teachings seem utopian, but for the students of AVM the message of this historical epic comes more relevant and attainable. Sundaram House celebrated the Janmashtami week by elucidating the wisdom and teachings of Mahabharat to all the students. Sundaram House celebrated this week by putting forth the characters and happenings of Mahabharat through speeches, videos and various performances based on this great epic.

The character portrayals of Krishna, Arjun, Duryodhan, Jaydrath, Shakuni and Dushasan in the drama brought home the message that intellect and knowledge are always outshined by faith and devotion to God. In today's world, we are like Arjun in our daily war with our senses and mind, which try to pull us away from our goal and in order to emerge as a winner in this war against negative forces; we need to have a Krishna by our side, the charioteer who guides us on the right path. The key message of this creative assembly was that **we can ascertain our victory if we ask just for God Himself by our side, in all our endeavours.**



- Seema Ma'am

# SAMARPAN 2013

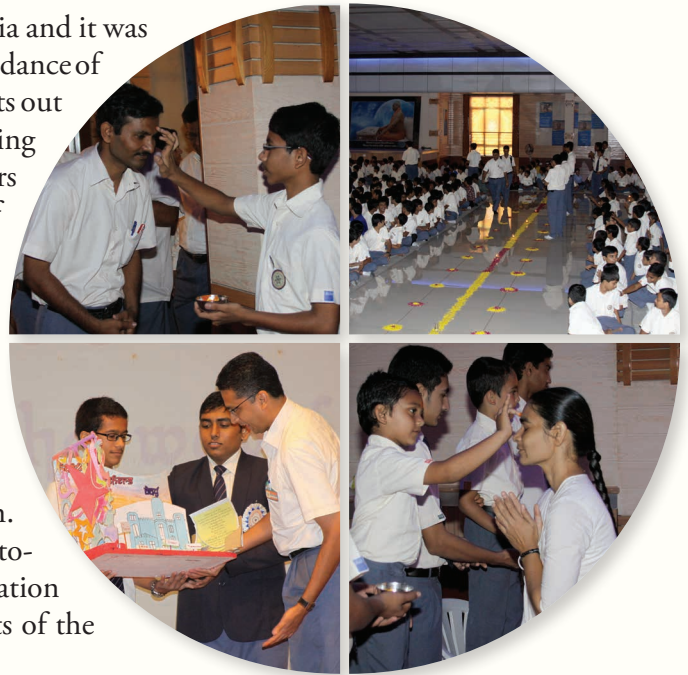
For all those who light the way for others

5th September is celebrated as *Teachers' Day* all over India and it was very special also at AVM. The students of Class 11 with guidance of the Student Council Convener, Tarun Sir, poured their hearts out to convey their love and respect for their teachers by arranging a celebration on the day. The students believe their teachers to be the torch bearers in their path of ignorance; mast of their life boats and their compass in the dense forest of life.

The function showcased a comprehensive package full of appreciation, love, fun, music and dance. A thoughtful, and yet full-of-humour hosting by class 11 students weaved together some impressive performances in form of: a musical tribute; a skit conveying the real significance of AVM and the special role played by teachers; songs; a dance tribute and a heart touching speech.

The teachers and staff were all presented cards as a token of appreciation from the students and thus, the celebration and the day carved a yet another special place in the hearts of the teachers and the students for each other!

- Harshit Aggarwal & Love Patel (11Com)



## LEADING US FROM DARKNESS TOWARDS LIGHT...

Teaching is a unique profession in which the teachers work not for themselves but they selflessly devote themselves for the betterment of their students. Teachers create the future of mankind by imparting knowledge to the next generation. They nurture students, care for them and help them to live a happy life and create a bright future for themselves. Teachers are only concerned with the improvement of their students and do not work for monetary benefits.

Though there are many teachers around the world who impart high quality education, but, all of us are impossibly fortunate to have a very different calibre of teachers who not only impart education but instigate a fire of doing good for the society and making a contribution for everyone's betterment. This is the wonderful concept of "Atmiyata" that we are being exposed to in this school. All the morals and values that we learn in this school are the things that actually matter more in our lives.

*There are many people who are much smarter than we are but the advantage that we have over all of them is that we have such a great environment and such great teachers around us.*

All the actions that we perform in this school, all the activities that we do, all of them have two aspects. One is the learning aspect of discovering new things and improving our knowledge. But more importantly, the other part of all the activities is the spiritual aspect. Teachers here teach us to see only positive in all the things and imbibe all positive values from others in our lives which helps us to strengthen our character. These are the kind of things that we learn in the course of all the activities we do. This is the "divine touch" which is the hallmark of our school. But, all of this is only possible due to the grace of Param Pujya Swamishree. Swamiji is our ultimate teacher. With Swamiji's divine grace and our teachers' help, we can very well progress further in our most important journey:

असतो मा सद्गमय। तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय। मृत्योर्मा अमृतं गमय।

The journey from ignorance towards truth, from darkness towards light and from mortality towards liberation. If only we observe His life and His actions, it has the power to completely transform our lives!

All of the teachers of our school are there for us at any time of the day and are ever ready to help us in every situation of life. They don't merely teach us, "they inspire". They are not just our academic guides, they are our "portraits of inspiration". They not only teach all the students but they see god in all the students and never fail to help any of them.

Although on the occasion of Teachers' Day there is a lot of pomp and show but without understanding the actual meaning of Teachers' Day, all of this celebration will go in vain. There are some situations when we hesitate in following our teachers. Though we may physically accept what they say, somewhere in the corner of our mind, we are uncertain about their decision. So the real celebration of Teachers' Day is to surrender to our teachers and accept their decisions completely and follow all their instructions to the dot. We must never distrust their decisions because they are wise, experienced as well as decisive. Thus they will always take a decision for our advantage. The day of Teachers' Day will come each year but what is important is that we take the message.

**Because the message is much more important than the celebration.**



Sachin Verlekar  
School Head Boy

## LITTLE THINGS YOU DO FOR US

It is rightly said that teachers play a very important role in a student's life. They are the ones who strengthen student's confidence and courage, and sustain their dignity to develop a personality to be loved and accepted in society. Their role in a student's life is very crucial. We feel very fortunate to study in a school where teachers don't just teach, but they also empower our overall growth.

We all, personally, had a really exciting and inspiring journey with the teachers of the primary grades. We all know that in primary grades we learn the basics of every subject which help us in the higher grades. Once, when we were in grade 4, there was a student named Henilbhai. He had some problems in studies. Our English teacher, Renuka ma'am used to be very tolerant with his problems and used to help him overcome them. She used to take him to the sand piles outside and make him draw the alphabet "b" and "d". Henilbhai could not understand the difference between those two alphabets. This way, she used to help him overcome his problem. At another time, when we were to give our final maths exam in grade 7, respected Swayam ma'am, who remains extremely busy at all times as the vice principal of our school, sat with us for hours and helped us tremendously to understand the difficult concepts of maths. Due to this we were able to perform our best in the exam. We are very thankful to her.

The previous year, one of our classmates had some serious issues in studies and also had an unruly behaviour. Our respected Saumya ma'am used to call him when he was free and inspired him to change. In this way she helped him to edify himself to become a mannered and composed individual. These are just three examples out of the numerous such experiences that the students of our grade have had with all our teachers. Although all our teachers are extremely knowledgeable, they come down to our level for our convenience. This is what touches us more than anything else.

*They not only teach us the subjects,  
but also teach us how to be bold and  
face the challenges of life.*

They make it seem as if our problems were their problems. They are always there for us. Their encouragement helps us to gain confidence. The knowledge they give us not only teaches us how to solve an equation, identify verbs or understand history, but also helps us to become better humans with a deeply rooted faith in God. In short, an ideal recipe for us to make our parents proud. There are no words to express our gratitude or describe your efforts in words. All we can say is

that we love you for all you have done.

*Little things you do for us  
Like nobody else make us feel so good  
Little things you do for us  
Make us smile like no one else could  
And that's why we love you.*

*You heard our mad stories  
With a secret or two  
And all our worries  
You knew they were not true  
But you liked that we shared.*

*Little things you do for us  
Like nobody else make us feel so good  
Little things you do for us  
Make us smile like no one else could  
And that's why we love you.*

*With an aim to unlock  
You sat and discussed  
The mind which is flocked  
Developing an immense trust  
Answering our curiosity and doubts*

*Little things you do for us  
Like nobody else make us feel so good  
Little things you do for us  
Make us smile like no one else could  
And that's why we love you.*

*You showed concern for our needs  
In all your deeds  
Went with us on a stroll  
To discuss our goal  
You appreciated our every little effort*

*Little things you do for us  
Like nobody else make us feel so good  
Little things you do for us  
Make us smile like no one else could  
And that's why we love you.*



Smit K Patel,  
Vinamra Patel,  
Yathansh Joshi  
(Std 8)





## Natural Intelligence Competition

Nature is beautiful for those rare who admire her beauty. Their observation of nature is keen and perception is entirely different from a layman, because they possess natural intelligence, one of the aspects of multiple intelligence.

For those faces in the crowd, teachers at AVM organized the Inter House Natural Intelligence Competition for grades 1 to 10.

The competitions were organised grade wise and house wise with different themes picked up from the environment. It turned out to be a day of revelation for the students of their own talents & creativity and a day of admiration for the teachers of their students!

- Sunita Ma'am



## जल झीलनी एकादशी

त्यौहारों की शृंखला में एक और कड़ी जुड़ जाती है जिसे जल-झीलनी एकादशी के रूप में ख्याति प्राप्त है। यह अद्भुत और विशेष त्यौहार भारत में कई नामों से जाना जाता है - जैसे परिवर्तिनी एकादशी, पार्श्व एकादशी, वामन एकादशी, डोल ग्यारस आदि।

पूरे उत्साह और उमंग के साथ औत्सुक्यपूर्ण वातावरण में भगवान की प्रतिमाओं को देवालय से आदरपूर्वक बाहर लाकर श्रद्धा एवं सावधानी के साथ पालकी में बैठाई गई। भगवान की जय-जयकार से विद्यालय प्रांगण गुंजायमान हो उठा। इस शोभायात्रा की शोभा तो बस देखते ही बनती थी।

विद्यालय के सभी छात्र को संबोधित करते हुए डॉ. पटेलने इस पर्व के महात्म्य पर प्रकाश डाला और कहा कि "जिस प्रकार किसी नदी या सागर को सुगमता व सरलतापूर्वक पार करने में एक नौका कितनी सहायक होती है, ठिक वैसे ही ये जीवन भी एक सागर जैसा है जिसमें विषमता की समय-समय पर अनेक लहरे आती रहती है। जिनका सामना कर सफलतापूर्वक इस भवसागर को पार करने में संत हमारे लिए नाव की भांति सहायता करते हैं और हम जीवन का सुगमता और सरलता से निरवहन कर सकते हैं।"

फिर कनिष्ठ छात्रों से लगा कर वरिष्ठ छात्रों तक सभी ने भक्ति के साथ अत्यधिक उमंग द्वारा बारी-बारी से श्रीहरि को जल में विहार करवाया। इस तरह से जल-झीलनी एकादशी के इस उत्सव को आत्मीय विद्यामंदिर में सरसता के साथ मनाया गया।

- Pushpak Sir



## INTER HOUSE SKATING COMPETITION

Stronger foundations are the reason for the stability and strength of a tall building. Likewise in sports, stronger domestic competitions often lead to a strong showing outside the school. Skating has always been one of the favourite sports at AVM. Skating can often give you the thrill of speed but also make you realize of the importance of balance in our lives. Therefore, it was not a surprise that students were very excited to participate in the inter house skating competition. As per the school policy of 'safety first', all the students were ready with their protective gears for a very exciting competition.

The inter house competition showcased the talent of students along with their will to maintain very high standards. Such a level of skill and commitment was later rewarded with some excellent performances at the district level. AVM swept the U-14 competition at the district level and three students (listed on the right) were selected to represent the district at the state level later this year.

On behalf of AVM family, we would like to congratulate them on this achievement.

- Mitesh Sir & Ritesh Sir



Durgesh Gami (9B)



Vishrut Patel (9A)



Hrushi Patel (9A)



## GANESH UTSAV

At AVM we welcomed Gajj Mukhi Shri Gajanana with chanting of the slogans on the beat of drums and khanjari, "Ganpati Bapa Morya, Mangal Murti Morya, Ghee na Laddu Choriya", "Aale re Aale Ganpati Aale" and students dancing ahead followed by Lord Ganesh on the chariot drawn by our housemasters and sports teachers till the steps of Atmiya Prayer Hall where the Idol was welcomed by the ladies staff performing poojan vidhi and sprinkling akshat and flowers inviting Lord Ganesh with the slogan "Riddhi Siddhi sahit padharo Shri Gaurinandan Ganesh".

The Idol was placed in the prayer hall with rituals performed by our Sanskrit teacher Shri Pushpak Joshi. Aarti was performed with the participation of all AVM staff and students. For the next five days, aarti and poojan was performed as per rituals and the students made the most of this auspicious opportunity of praying to the Lord of Wisdom and Prosperity.

On the fifth day, with mixed feelings of joy and some sadness, the students and staff celebrated the farewell of Lord Ganesh to His heavenly abode with the students loudly chanting slogans.

- Pranav Sir

Mother's Love  
Mother has a sight,  
which is very bright.  
Mother is a stair,  
that takes care.  
Mother has eyes,  
which do not speak lies.  
Mother is like a guide,  
who never leaves us aside.  
Mother is like a bird,  
who expresses a word, the word is 'LOVE'

## Mother's Love



Niramay Joshi  
(Std 8 A)

## Mom



Prince Dhameliya  
(Std 8 B)

Mom is a person with whom you can share,  
Without her, this life you cannot bear.  
When she cuddles you securely in her arms,  
She gives you blessings that you meet with no harms.  
Mom is the one who scolds you  
but she is also the one who holds you.

My mother is my life, my life is my Mother.  
My mother is like a flowing river,  
who never stops loving us.  
My mother is like an eraser,  
who erases my mistakes.  
My mother is like a sharpener,  
who sharpens my skill.  
My mother's lap is like pillow,  
who makes me sleep where ever I am.  
My mother is like a candle,  
who suffers for me and gives me light.

## My Mother



Shyam Savaliya  
(Std 8 B)

## GURUHARI SWAMISHRI'S VISION

“અહીં આવતા ભૂલકાંઓને ભગવદ્દ્રષ્ટિથી ભણાવવામાં આવશે. તેથી શિક્ષણ તથા જીવનનાં મૂલ્યો આપવાનું કાર્ય એ સહેલું જ પૂજા બની જશે. જ્યાં પૂજા સ્વરૂપે કાંઈ પણ કરવામાં આવે ત્યાં શારીરીક અને માનસિક વિકાસ જ નહિ પરંતુ આત્માનો વિકાસ સહેલું જ થાય છે.”

“શિક્ષણ એવું આપવું કે ભણનાર સુખી થાય, તેનો આત્મા સુખી થાય, તેના માવતર સુખી થાય અને સમાજ સુખી થાય.”

“બાળક ૮૦ વર્ષ સુધી મા-બાપનું જ રહે એ મોટી વાત છે. એવું કરવું છે.”

“૯૫% લાવનાર વિદ્યાર્થી એમ નહિ કહી શકે કે મને સારા વિચારો ઉઠે છે. એટલે સારા મિત્રો અને સારી સ્કૂલ.”

*Union of Body, Mind & Soul*





## HIS ACTIONS

અતિશય વ્યસ્ત દિનચર્યામાં પણ ગુરુહરિ સ્વામીશ્રીએ સમય કાઢીને આત્મીય વિદ્યા મંદિરનું બાંધકામ ચાલતું હતું ત્યારે હાજરી આપીને વર્ગખંડની ટાઇલ્સની પસંદગીથી લઈને વર્ગખંડમાં ભણાવનાર શિક્ષકની પસંદગી સુધીની એવી નાનીમોટી તમામ બાબતોમાં સંપૂર્ણ રસ લીધો છે.

શિક્ષણની સાથો-સાથ, વિદ્યાર્થીઓના જીવનમાં સાચો વિવેક અને ધ્યેયની સ્પષ્ટતા થાય તે માટે સ્વામીશ્રી વર્ષમાં ત્રણ વખત આત્મીય વિદ્યા મંદિરમાં પધારીને વિદ્યાર્થીઓને પ્રેમ તથા આશીર્વાદ આપે છે.

આત્મીય વિદ્યા મંદિરમાં સેવા આપતા teaching અને non-teaching સ્ટાફને વર્ષમાં ત્રણ વખત સ્વામીશ્રીએ પોતાની દિવ્ય અને અલૌકિક પરાવાણીના પ્રેરણાપીયુષ પાઈને એમના ઉત્સાહ અને અધ્યાત્મિકતાને જીવંત રાખ્યા છે.

- Saumya Ma'am

*Dedicated to the divinity in every child.*



**VENICE OF THE EAST:  
THERE AND BACK AGAIN**

Std 9-10 School trip to  
Udaipur/Chittorgarh



An electrifying tour to Udaipur was organised to rejuvenate the students and to ease off from the recently concluded exams. It was held from October 5th to October 8th for the students of grades 9 and 10. In Udaipur, the students went for boating in the Pichola Lake, a beautiful, picturesque lake that is enveloped by some of the key structures of Udaipur. They also visited the Maharana Pratap Memorial where they learnt more about the very inspiring life of Maharana Pratap. In Chittorgarh, a historically very significant Mewar part of Rajasthan, they saw for themselves the place where Queen Padmini and the Rajput women performed "jauhar" symbolising the extent of their dedication towards their faith. They relived the sacrifice made by Panna Dai in order to save the infant Prince Udaisinh and were touched by the life and devotion of Meerabai. They further got to see the ruins of the Royal Palace, the Vijay Stambh (Tower of Victory), Meerabai Temple, Rana Pratap fort and the breath-taking views of the modern city which lay at the foothills. The tour concluded with a visit to the fascinating, grand City Palace in Udaipur. The experiences of this tour have left indelible footprints on the sands of time for the students.

- Yaksh Badhiwala and Uttkarsh Patel (Std 10)







# STD I-4 SCHOOL TRIP TO GUJARAT'S MESMERIZING PARADISE: SAPUTARA

As their senior brothers enjoyed their time in Udaipur, the youngest of the school, grades 1 to 4 hit the road towards the only hill station of south Gujarat, Saputara, for a break after their SA1 exams. They took the opportunity to witness the horticultural beauty while having some snacks on the way at the Waghai Botanical Gardens.

At Saputara, the final destination, the lively bunch enjoyed a pleasurable stay and delicious food, whilst also having a go at horse riding, boating and a visit to the local museum hosting various artefacts of the tribal inhabitants of the Dang region.

- Binu Ma'am





**STD 5-6 SCHOOL TRIP TO SILVASSA - A LAND OF HEAVENLY BEAUTY AND CHARM**

South Gujarat enjoys some of the most beautiful green landscapes, and especially so at the end of the monsoon. Silvassa, the capital of Dadra & Nagar Haveli union territory, in all its majestic and fresh greenery, welcomed the students of Std 5-6 at a luxurious hotel which won over the hearts of the students and teachers by its hospitality.

The students celebrated a Navratri night by playing garba infused with innovation in the hotel premises. They exploited the opportunities of adventure and fun at a water park whilst relaxing in the lap of nature.

- Rashmi Ma'am









## STD. 7-8 FROM MOUNT ABU, WITH RENEWED ENERGY AND NOVEL IDEAS!

Inspired by the urge of discovering the unknown ways of life, the journey of Std 7-8 students, to Mount Abu advanced with some new and unique experiences. By travelling on the unseen ways through avenues and city streets, students not only explored the new paths but also appreciated the different localities and peculiar lifestyles of the regional people. It was a perfect combination of the comfort, in fact luxury, in form of accommodation and food offered by the hotel, with the roughness offered by the various adventure activities under the guidance of a team of very passionate professionals. The night trekking proved to be the most exciting event considering the uncertainties it offered in its path, in other words, opportunities to explore beyond the frontiers. The students returned from this action-packed trip all charged up for the upcoming academic challenges of the new term!

- Nimit Patel and Smit Patel (Std 8)



## AVM DEBATING CLUB REPORT

**It is better to debate a question without settling it, than to settle a question without debating it.**

Debating is a journey towards Truth. The Debating Club at AVM has been enhancing the debating skills in students for more than a year now. Students have not only learnt the skills to present their point of view but also to respect the other's point of view. They are being facilitated and trained to become good debaters. Students have been taught to understand the three phases of debate i.e. planning, preparing and presentation.



This year, debating club started with the appointment of debate secretaries and an audition for the students interested in mastering the art of debating. The club is assisted by 4 enthusiastic debate secretaries from class IX, Vishrutbhai, Niharbhai, Krushanbhai and Dinalbhai from the 4 houses Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram and Suhradam respectively, along with a secretary from class X, Keyurbhai. This team keeps everything in place, right from pre-arrangement of modules, practise sessions and student's attendance for the club. Students are coached and mentored by the teachers of the English department. The club members are divided into two groups; students from class 6 and 7 and the students from class 8 to 12, "Fresher" and "Level-up", respectively.

Debating requires a number of skills

to be introduced, explored and experienced. In the same direction, English teachers guided the Fresher group through instructional program which was divided into different skill-based Modules. The timetable of the Modules was designed with the objective to build a debating attitude in the new debaters. Therefore, the different skills were sequenced one after another as building blocks. Vivid presentations on each of these modules were designed and presented by the teachers. This introduced them to the required skills in the art of debating. Topics covered were Introduction to debates, ARE format, Speech Writing and Delivery, Research for debates, Refutation, Note-Taking, Team-work, Point of Information, Heckling and communication skills.

Facilitating students with the basic knowledge about debate structures, debate formats, theme based speeches and resource material was only the first step towards the journey of infinite knowledge and wisdom.



Nevertheless, learning is preserved only by practising. Hence, students from grades 8 to 12 were provided with the opportunity to prepare and perform in practice sessions. These practice sessions gave them a chance to debate on stage in presence of an allied audience and the panel of juries. The schedule of the practice sessions was designed in such a way that each and every child of

the debating club gets a chance to debate on the stage in front of all the members of the club. The topics for the debates were selected based on their real -life experiences and questions from 9th & 10th CBSE board papers, thus preparing them for the paper pencil test simultaneously. Team work and positive attitude are the foremost objectives of the club. Hence all the motions directly or indirectly were debated to practise and imbibe these values.



Zealous students, furthermore, left no stone unturned in the preparation for the practice sessions. Debate mannerisms and etiquettes were learnt and also demonstrated by the debaters to a fair extent. During the process, students got to learn many different skills of presentation like fluency, dictions, language flow, style and intonation and the usage of non-verbal language. Debaters also got a chance to improve upon all the four basic skills of language (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) during the process.

In a nut shell, it was an awesome experience to witness the fusion of thought provoking motions and truth seeking debaters. The first session of this year was very inspiring and fun filling. And as it has inspired many new students to join the club, it has proved to be a new era of debating at AVM.

- Chirag Sir

## THE REALM OF SPORTS AT AVM

In India, sports is often stereotyped by parents, students and teachers alike. After watching Dhoni hitting sixes or Messi dribbling past the agile defenders to score a goal, students may want to become the Dhonis, the Kohlis and Ronaldos of tomorrow. But then, with good faith, the teachers and parents say, “Not everyone can become Tendulkar, so stop wasting time and focus on studies”. You don’t want to blame them so much for saying that as the reality of life is very harsh. The world is becoming ever so competitive and making a good living through any career is no easy task. But somewhere down the line we are missing the point and the purpose of sports.



Sports was not developed so that people can make careers out of it as professional sportsmen and make money and neither was it developed to compete only. If you look at the history of various cultures, sports started as a source of entertainment. Couple that with a huge advantage of physical fitness it brings and sports becomes a very important part of anyone’s life regardless of what they do for living.

Wandering around the campus of AVM, one may get a feeling that it is a sports focussed school working to bring out the athletic talents of the students. Add to it the constant presence of 10 coaches on the campus and you have a very compelling case. But when one realises that it is

primarily an academic and a cultural school, it reflects the importance that the school also gives to sports and physical education.



There are two primary objectives of sports at AVM: to ingrain physical fitness and to inculcate important life skills in students. In this day and age, when the teenagers are overwhelmed by the technological conveniences, it is a welcoming sight to see them sweat it out on the field. As the maxim goes, “a healthy mind in a healthy body”, we believe that physical fitness can keep the students more alert, agile, focussed and strong which can also help them in their studies and other co-curricular activities.



Sports is said to often bring out strong emotions from people and make them react differently in the heat of the moment on the field. That gives the students the opportunity to learn more about themselves, more than they ever can find out in a classroom. The field experiences give them glimpses of what to expect from life once they go out of the school. The highs of a victory and the lows of a defeat can prepare

them well to take up real world challenges. Sports teachers and coaches at AVM also try to inculcate two core values in the students through sports: importance of failures in life and importance of strong work ethic over talent. On the sports field, students are encouraged to learn from their defeats. They are taught to play and compete hard without compromising the core value of the school, “Atmiyata”. Like any other part of the school, students are encouraged to develop a strong work ethic rather than relying only on talent.



Availability of the coaches for sports like Handball, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Volleyball, Skating, Basketball, Table tennis and Football provides ample of choices for the students to choose the sport of their liking. These coaches strive to improve the skills of the students using their knowledge and experience. Along with the highly competitive inter-house events, the performances of the school teams at district and state level also show the commitment of the sports teachers in an academically focussed school.

In short, sports at AVM is not just a part of the routine or merely a source of entertainment, but it is seen as a very useful way of connecting with students and helping them learn some of the very important life skills at a very early age.

- Tarun Sir

# Choice is Yours

Think thrice,  
Before you throw the dice,  
Make your mind pure,  
After all, the choice is yours.

Though the words may sound same,  
But it would be a shame,  
They don't mean the same, 'Wise and Vice',  
So before you chose think once, twice & thrice.

Think thrice,  
Before you throw the dice,  
Make your mind pure,  
After all, the choice is yours.

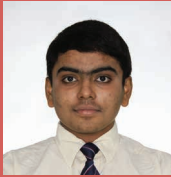
Make a good choice to be successful,  
If not the other option is to be a fool,  
A bad workman never gets a tool,  
Don't allow your monkey mind to rule.

Think thrice,  
Before you throw the dice,  
Make your mind pure,  
After all, the choice is yours.



Nihar  
Dudhatra  
(Std 9A)

Abhishek Patel  
(Std 9B)



Dhwanit  
Tamboli  
(Std 9A)

## Choice is Yours

One will be able to see the world the way he perceives it.

God and your heart both whisper... incline your ears don't just learn from your head.

Words can hurt or heal. What did yours do today?

**Helps us to focus**

**Boost our progress**

**Makes our thoughts positive**

**Increases our energy**

**Increases our focus**

**Makes us wise**

**Diverges us from our goals**

**Hampers our progress**

**Maligns our thoughts**

**Reduces our energy**

**We lose interest**

**Time is wasted**

**Exchanging ideas become easy**

**Helps us to win hearts**

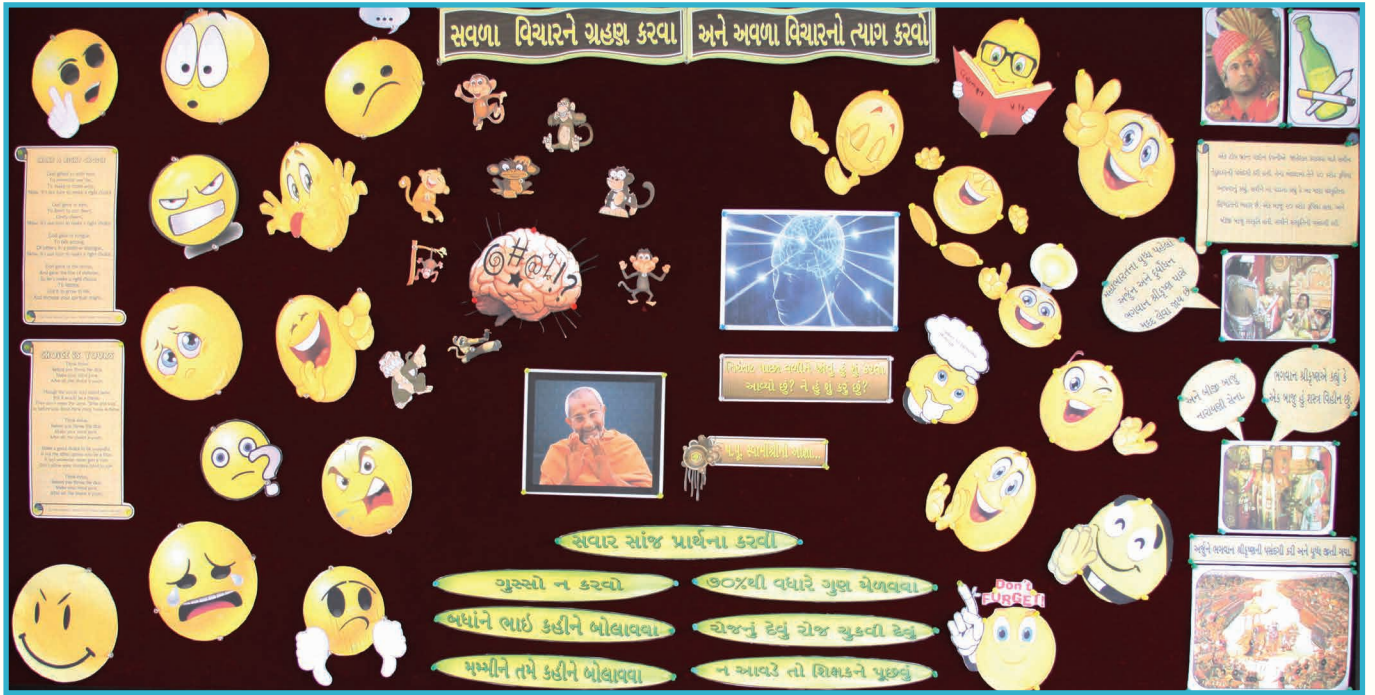
**Motivates and encourages all**

**Spoil our actions**

**Maligns our character**

**Breaks friendship and relations**





God gifted us with eyes,  
 To minimize our ties,  
 To make us more wise,  
 Now, It's our turn to make a right choice.

God gave us ears,  
 To listen to our dears,  
 Lively cheers,  
 Now, It's our turn to make a right choice.

God gave us tongue,  
 To talk among,  
 Of others, in a positive dialogue,  
 Now, It's our turn to make a right choice.

God gave us the senses,  
 And gave the line of defense,  
 So let's make a right choice,  
 To rejoice,  
 Use it to live a happy life,  
 And increase your spiritual might...

*Make a  
 right choice*



Dhaval Jariwala  
 (Std 10A)

Uttam Italiya  
 (Std 10B)



Rohan Shingala  
 (Std 10B)

Dhruval Patel  
 (Std 10 A)



## CORRUPTION

Corruption is the biggest enemy of our country. It is even worse than Pakistanis and Chinese forces. It is killing our country, not physically but from within our country. It is the type of thing that the more the people have tried to stop it, it has come back in action with double the force!

The main question is then, how can we stop corruption? Yes, it is a big question mark on the faces of people of our nation. If we continue bribing other people and also not paying tax, the day won't be far that prices of all things hit the sky. People who are corrupted think that they are keeping their hard work's credit with them and why should they give 20% to 30% of their earnings to the government. But this thinking is downright wrong and doing according to that is against the law.

People like Anna Hazare fight as the voice of people to stop these things, but, some people with the fear of getting caught, bribe people and they delay the necessary actions for a long period of time. What can a country do if its leaders are too corrupted? This has been the condition of our country for many decades. People who are corrupted should have a feeling in their heart for their country. If you are done with this article you should try to stop wherever and whenever you see people giving bribes to other people.



Manan Dudhwala  
(Std 7 B)

All credit to prayer.

Have you ever experienced a real prayer?

If yes, you would be one of the happiest people in the world.

If no, then you would be troubled in your life.

Prayer is a wireless connection with god and god is open 24x7 to us but when? When we pray whole heartedly.

When does a man create something? When he gets idea and ideas come alive to us when almighty God inspires us when we pray.

Every successful person including Albert Einstein, Abdul Kalam, etc have included prayer and given importance to it in their route to success.

Prayer can also change anyone and it is also said that prayer is a wish turned upwards. Prayer is the only unbeatable spirit that exists in the universe.

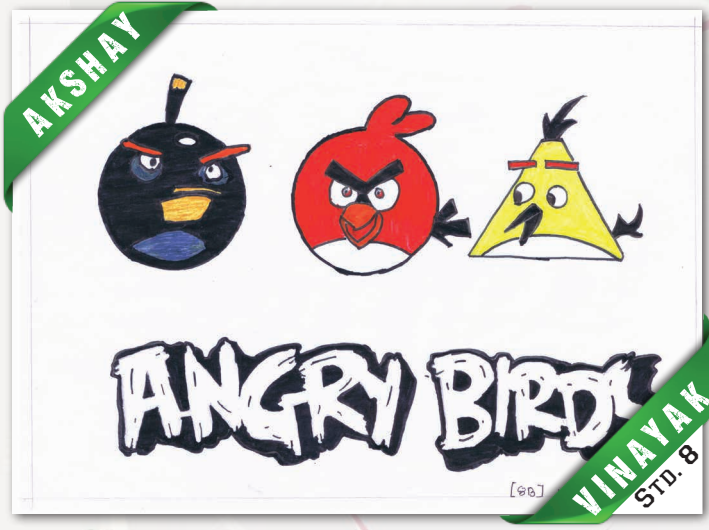
A man's life without prayer is like tea without sugar and dark room without light. Really, prayer is a must so we should remember to always pray to God and thank Him.

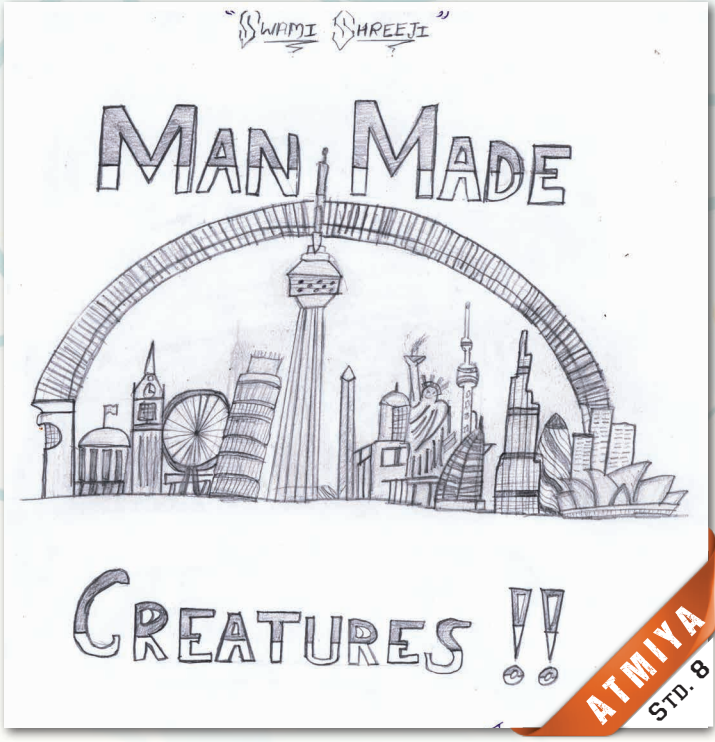
## PRAYER:

*Silent yet  
Powerful*



Smit Lad  
(Std 7 A)





# THE FLIGHT



Akash Singhal  
XI Commerce

Unlike every new student of a hostel I didn't have much life to begin. I had only a thought that I have come here to spend 2 years of my schooling and then move out. I didn't have the urge to learn new, to explore my abilities but as the days passed by, I learned about how the concerned and caring teachers/staff at the school uplifted my enthusiasm mentally and showed a new path for me to flourish. This was all possible due to the selfless efforts made by the teachers for my benefit. I realised the need of positive environment and then I started following P. P. Swamiji's quote on the recipe for success.

- ~ Earnest prayer
- ~ Sincere hard work
- ~ Company of good friends

Then, slowly I started to ajar myself to access various activities such as book reviews, insightful daily assemblies, motivating creative assemblies, regular sport and much more house activities which then ignited my body, mind, heart and soul again, inspired me and enhanced my urge to learn. The opportunity of having the company of such hardworking and dedicated teachers makes me feel privileged and fortunate. They shoulder me in each and every aspect of my life. They developed my insight to learn beyond textbooks. I am very grateful to them. I experience a competitive environment free from distraction which helps me study better. I learned to take wise and independent decisions which in turn helped me develop my managerial skills. I also started thinking of my career and started building and preparing myself for my future.

I feel fortunate being a part of AVM. Though it is for the first time I have come to stay in a residential school, but frankly, I have not felt being away from home yet because of the love and care which all the teachers and staff provide me and I am sure that this bond of love and care shall remain forever.

Games are an essential part of our life. Games help us in different ways. Indoor games like chess, table tennis, carrom, ludo help us to increase our concentration and make us more attentive in studies. Outdoor games like cricket, football, basketball, volley ball, kabaddi help us to stay fit and increase our stamina.

All the above mentioned games require sportsmanship. If we play without sportsmanship we lose although winning the game. We should develop an attitude of neither becoming so sad nor too excited, whether we lose or win.

To be a good player we must understand this real value of games.

## VALUE OF GAMES



Shubh Mehta  
(Std. 7B)

# એક જ છે આ નિશાળ

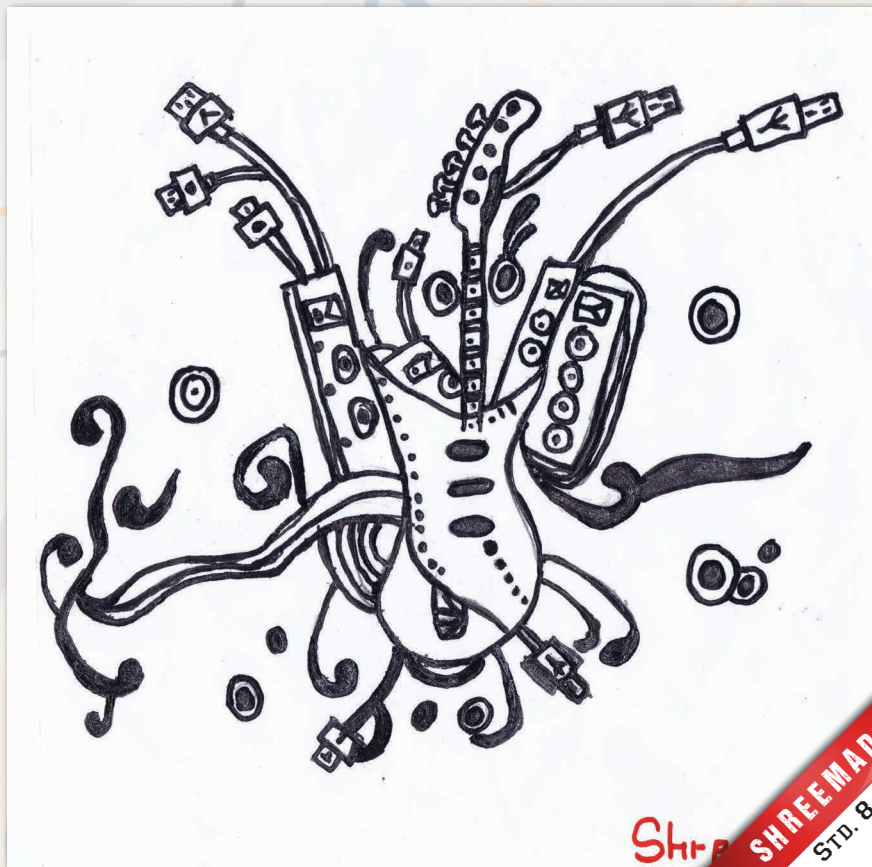


જય પટેલ  
ધોરણ ૮

એક જ છે આ નિશાળ,  
જ્યાં મળે સંસ્કારોની ખાણ.  
એક જ છે આ નિશાળ,  
જ્યાં બધાને મળે સરખું માન-સન્માન.  
એક જ છે આ નિશાળ,  
જ્યાં મળે જ્ઞાન-વિજ્ઞાન.  
એક જ છે આ નિશાળ,  
જ્યાં બધાનું રખાય છે ધ્યાન.  
એક જ છે આ નિશાળ,  
મારી નિશાળ, મારી નિશાળ.



VINAMRA  
STD. 8



## SETTING A NEW BENCHMARK

It is rightly said that the fruits of success always grow on the tree of hard work. After a year full of home works, assignments, daily reading hours, worksheets, projects, unit tests, prelims, and two summative exams; students were eager to find out if their tree of hard work was ready to give them the fruit of success which they were hoping for.

The consistent hard work throughout the year by students coupled with the constant guidance from the teachers and more importantly with the blessings and inspiration from His Divine Holiness Hariprasad Swamiji, the class 10 students achieved a benchmark result in CBSE 2013 board exams.

It was a proud moment for the school as 10 students scored a perfect score of 10.0 CGPA.

Out of the 53 students appeared for the exams, 24 students scored over 9.0 CGPA.

Atmiya Vidya Mandir congratulates all the students, their parents and the teachers for an astounding result.

Here are some of the statistical highlights and the school toppers:

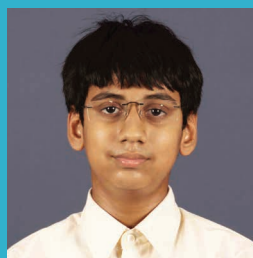
- Total number of students appeared: 53
- Students with CGPA 10: 10
- Students with CGPA greater than 9: 14
- Students with CGPA between 8 to 9: 11
- Students with CGPA between 7 to 8: 10
- Students with CGPA between 6 to 7: 6
- Students with CGPA <6: 2

### THE TOP SCORERS



10.0 CGPA

Vishesh Mistry



10.0 CGPA

Sachin Verlekar



10.0 CGPA

Lalit Desai



10.0 CGPA

Parth Amipara



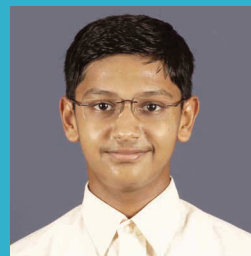
10.0 CGPA

Harshit Aggarwal



10.0 CGPA

Tanmay Patel



10.0 CGPA

Anmol Kagrecha



10.0 CGPA

Neel Virani



10.0 CGPA

Nishit Banka



10.0 CGPA

Vatsal Bhanderi

Name	CGPA
Harsh Vaghela	9.8
Parikshit Patel	9.8
Dhruv Patel	9.6
Love Patel	9.6
Deepak Khatri	9.4
Harsh Sarda	9.4
Himanshu Patel	9.4
Param Patel	9.4
Ronak Mistry	9.4
Bhavik Parekh	9.2
Pratipalsinh Jadeja	9.2
Mayank Watwani	9
Siddhant Chaudhari	9
Vishwajeet Solanki	9



# SPORTS ACHIEVERS

Students who represented the Surat-Rural district at Gujarat state level competitions.

## TABLE TENNIS

UNDER-14



Smit Lad

UNDER-17



Bonny Patel

UNDER-17



Rushi Patel

UNDER-17



Denish Patel

UNDER-17



Jil Patel

UNDER-19



Krutarth Patel

UNDER-19



Utkarsh Patel

UNDER-19



Uttam Italia

UNDER-19



Vishesh Mistry

## BASKETBALL

UNDER-14



Nimit Patel

UNDER-14



Rahul Patel

UNDER-14



Rajveer Parmar

UNDER-14



Smit Patel

## FOOTBALL

UNDER-17



Manhil Borana

## SOARING NEW HEIGHTS

Looking at history is a fascinating and enriching experience. It tells us so bluntly, clearly and so wisely the ways to success and happiness. The single most important point, however, that one can witness looking at all the major events is the need of a friend, philosopher and guide in one's life, a "saint in any form", so to say.

To list some glaring examples, there was a Chanakya for Chandragupta; there was an angel sent by God to guide Moses; the three kings were led by the Star of Bethlehem to the just born Jesus Christ; Hanumanji blessed and inspired Sant Tulsidasji; Shivaji saved by Samarth Ramdas; Swami Vivekanand guided by Ramkrishna Paramhans. The list really is endless.

The Atmiya Vidya Mandir students and teachers are very fortunate to have a beacon in form of His Divine Holiness Hariprasad Swamiji to guide us in our joys, sorrows and most importantly, in the journey of life.

Swamiji had given a special recipe of success to AVM students:

- Earnest prayer
- Sincere hard work
- Company of good friends

During Swamiji's visit to AVM, on 29th September 2012, He had made the entire school repeat after Him "70% must, must, must, must" and "No below 70%" and also written a fax on 14th February 2013 mentioning "69% marks joiyej nahi".

And our dearest students of Std 12 followed it all to the word!

They have set a benchmark for the batches to come at AVM. It was a beautiful concerted effort involving the students, teachers, hostel staff, dining staff, administration team and the school security staff.

With Swamiji's blessings, all this has materialised in the form of excellence conveyed in the results.

We would like to wish the students, their parents and teachers many congratulations for such an outstanding performance! The journey of excellence, well, continues.

*Congratulations & All the Best*

*To  
Class of 2013*



# Outstanding Achievements

Atmiya Vidya Mandir, together with our proud associates, **Vision IIT** and **Swastik Education**, congratulate all our students and their parents for this outstanding achievement!

## : RESULTS SUMMARY :

Total no. of students appeared: 31

Total % of passed students: 100%

Students above 90%: 16

Students between 80% to 90%: 11

Students between 74% to 80%: 4

**Class Average 87.6%**

**Maximum Score 94.2%**

**Minimum Score 74.4%**

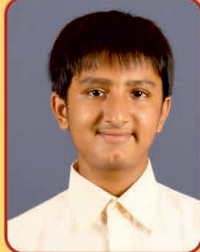
## COMMERCE TOPPERS

RANK 1



**Agam Shah**  
**93.8%**  
(overall)

RANK 2



**Harsh Patel**  
**93.6%**  
(overall)

RANK 3



**Karan Jivani**  
**93.0%**  
(overall)

RANK 4



**Anand Kalavadia**  
**92.8%**  
(overall)

RANK

NAME

%

5	Nikhil Chaudhary	92.0
6	Aneesh Sharma	91.8
7	Subham Bagaria	91.6
8	Prafful Chandaliya	90.0

## SCIENCE TOPPERS

RANK 1



**Sahishnu Patel**  
**94.2%**  
(overall)

RANK 2



**Aditya Patel**  
**93.2%**  
(overall)

RANK 3



**Romal Patel**  
**93.0%**  
(overall)

RANK 4



**Manav Patel**  
**92.2%**  
(overall)

RANK

NAME

%

5	Purva Patel	92.0
6	Samyak Varia	91.8
7	Anirudh Chandak	91.2
8	Shaivin Patel	91.0

# STUDENTS' PLACEMENTS - (CLASS OF 2013)



Aditya Patel  
B.Tech. Mechatronics  
Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



Anirudh Chandak  
B.Tech. Electronics &  
Communication Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



Ateet Kawa  
B. Arch.  
Hiray College of  
Architecture, Mumbai



Bhavik Patel  
B.Tech. Civil Engineering  
Symbiosis Institute of  
Technology, Pune



Denish Zalavadia  
B.Tech. Civil Engineering  
NMIMS, Mumbai



Deval Patel  
B.Tech. Mechatronics  
Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



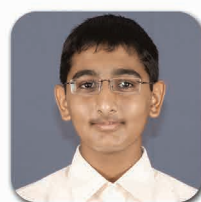
Ghanshyam Dabhi  
B.Tech. Computer  
Engineering  
NMIMS, Mumbai



Ishan Vagharia  
B.Tech. Electrical &  
Electronics Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



Purva Patel  
B.Tech. Mechatronics  
Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



Romal Patel  
B.Tech. Electrical &  
Electronics Engineering  
SRM University, Chennai



Sahishnu Patel  
B.S. Electrical & Computer  
Engineering  
Rutgers University,  
NJ, USA



Samyak Varia  
B.E. Chemical Engineering  
G H Patel College of  
Engineering & Technology,  
Vallabh Vidyanagar



Shaivin Patel  
B.S. General Science  
Rutgers University,  
NJ, USA



Manav Patel  
M.B.B.S.  
Surat Municipal Institute of  
Medical Education & Research  
(SMIMER), Surat



Utsav Choudhary  
B.Com. & CPT- CA  
S.D. Jain College of  
Commerce, Surat



Vikim Patel  
B.B.A. SEMCOM,  
Vallabh Vidyanagar

# STUDENTS' PLACEMENTS - (CLASS OF 2013)



Agam Mehta  
B.B.A. - Bachelor of  
Business Administration  
Seventh Day Adventist  
College, Surat



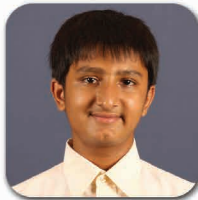
Agam Shah  
B.Com. - Bachelor of  
Commerce  
H.L. Institute of Commerce,  
Ahmedabad



Anand Kalavadia  
B.Com. & CPT- CA  
Narsee Monjee College of  
Commerce & Economics,  
Mumbai



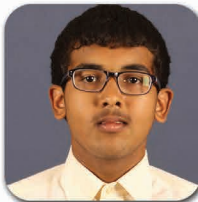
Aneesh Sharma  
B.A. (Hons.) - Economics  
MS University, Baroda



Harsh Patel  
B.Com. & CPT- CA  
Narsee Monjee College of  
Commerce & Economics,  
Mumbai



Harshkumar Solanki  
B.Des. - Communication Design  
Symbiosis Institute of Design,  
Pune



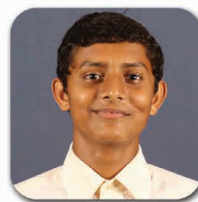
Karan Jivani  
B.Com. - Bachelor of  
Commerce  
S.P.B. College of  
Commerce, Surat



Meet Pansuriya  
B.Com. - Bachelor of  
Commerce  
H.L. College of Commerce,  
Ahmedabad



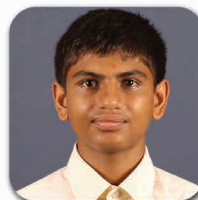
Nikhil Chaudhary  
B.A. LLB. (Hons.)-5 Years  
Integrated Programme  
Jindal Global Law School,  
Sonepat



Parth Patel  
B.Com. & CPT- CA  
Ritambhara College, Mumbai



Praffulkumar Chandaliya  
B.Com. & IPCC - CA  
H. R. College of Commerce  
& Economics, Mumbai



Raj Patel  
B.B.A. - Bachelor of Business  
Administration  
Navrachana University,  
Baroda



Saurabh Biyani  
B.Com. & CPT- CA  
Udhna Citizen College of  
Commerce, Surat



Subham Bagaria  
B.F.M. - Bachelor in Financial  
Markets  
N. M. College of Commerce  
& Economics, Mumbai



Vishlesh Gondalia  
B.M.S. - Bachelor in  
Management Studies  
N. M. College of Commerce  
& Economics, Mumbai

*Congratulations!*

# Reflections

## Parents

**DR SUVIDHI VARIA**  
(father of Samyak Varia)

The school has done well in implanting deep roots of high morales and ethical values along with strong academic foundation

**MANISHBHAI PATEL**  
(father of Manav Patel)

અમારી પાસે શબ્દો નથી. અમારી આશા કરતા તમો ઘણા આગળ છો. Excellent, Great. That's all. No words for Expression.

**JAYSUKHBHAI ZALAVADIYA**  
(father of Denish Zalavadiya)

The school has helped our child to gain a great height in spiritual and educational aspects.

**VANRAJBHAI JIVANI**  
(father of Karan Jivani)

Student-Teacher relationship is excellent. Hostel facilities are extra ordinary.

**SURESHBHAI VERLEKAR**  
(father of Sachin Verlekar)

We take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all the teachers at Atmiya Vidya Mandir for the contribution made to our lives. Thank you.

**KAUSHIKBHAI PATEL**  
(father of Aditya Patel)

I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the kind and continuous support in accomplishing Aditya's academics till now. With the blessings of God and Respected Shri Swamiji ....Aditya scored the best percentile (in the most difficult year of school education) of his Atmiya career. We are at the best hopes for Swamiji's uninterrupted blessing on our family for rest of the life. Thank you once again.

## Students

**ISHAN VAGHASIYA**  
(Class of 2013)

Actually our teachers worked harder than us for our success. I bet there is no school in this world which would have such kind of teachers.  
THANK YOU TEACHERS.

**DEVAL PATEL**  
(Class of 2013)

Every day we spent at least 20 to 30 minutes in front of God which gave us the extra energy to work even harder.

## Other Associates

**DR. PARAMESWARAN**  
(Gujarat National Law University)

I feel, coming to this Gurukul, this institution as a form of darshan of God in each & everyone.

**HIMANSHU GOYAL**  
(Booking Station)

It was a pleasure for me to serve this wonderful institution. The perfect harmony between teachers and students was spectacular. You guys were full of energy. Keep it up! Wish you all the best.



Rahul 8<sup>th</sup>

# EDUCATION WORLD

## INDIA SCHOOL RANKINGS 2013

**1**  
RANK

RESIDENTIAL  
SCHOOL FOR BOYS

In  
**GUJARAT**

AMONG THE  
**TOP**  
SCHOOLS  
IN INDIA  
FOR THESE  
**PARAMETERS**

LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION & CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION TO STUDENTS

CO-CURRICULAR EDUCATION

**16**  
RANK

In  
**INDIA**

FOR  
**BEST BOYS  
BOARDING  
SCHOOL**



At & Po. Kolibharthana, Kamrej - Shampura Road,  
Ta.- Kamrej, Dist.- Surat, Pin. 394180, Gujarat, India.

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Email: [info@avm.edu.in](mailto:info@avm.edu.in). Follow us on twitter @AVMupdates

**Atmiya Vidya Mandir**

International Residential School for Boys

Inspired & Blessed by:

H.D.H. Hariprasad Swamiji Maharaj