

NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, HSR  
PRESENTS

# REFLECTIONS

CHASING SEPTEMBER SUNS

Grade 9 Newsletter

2022-23



# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

While reminiscing nature's pristine bounty, it is September's beauty which holds the mind in thrall. The patter of the drops and the earthy aroma are those that return an overworked mind to its beautiful past. At the same time, an autumn evening is nothing without a rich, caramelized coffee. And it's September which evokes a myriad array of emotions, bringing with itself the bright spirit of festivity and nostalgia! From the coloured lights of Diwali and the sanctity of Dussehra to the darkness of Halloween, this month rightly captures the essence of serenity and the beauty of diversity.

We have had a unique experience, choosing from a diverse array of literary pieces to illustrations and photographs. And now, after weeks of contemplation and discussion, we, the editorial team, present to you, the Newsletter from Grade 9 -

*'Chasing September Suns'.*

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# Autumn Nostalgia

## AUTUMN BLISS

As the ember-red leaves of autumn burn slowly, the forest is aflame with colour. The fiery red leaves paint the woods a rich scarlet hue as clouds in a silvery haze overlook the autumn sky. This is the season of autumn, a memoir for times past and an emblem for what awaits. The burnt red leaves turn smouldering gold as the first of the rains fall. The delectable taste of autumn harvest fades as winter follows, ready to display its wares.

~Khushi Rai 9D

## THE ESSENCE OF AUTUMN

With the beaver moon, boisterous squalls, golden leaves and shadowy evenings ahead, autumn is the best time of the year to indulge in one's best-loved treats and activities. It also signifies a period of contemplation over past actions. The best word, to describe the cosy and tranquil nature of autumn evenings would be 'Hygge' - a word of Danish origin that also won Colin's Word of the Year award in 2016. A cup of coffee, books aplenty, candles and blankets - the best autumn comforts to enjoy the season. The start of autumn, marked by the orange, crunchy leaves delights many. 'Deciduous' - another word to help capture the essence of autumn which signifies not only the trees that shed their leaves but also the slow transition from summer into the harsh and cold winter. Autumn also has its magic word - 'Susurrous', describing the soothing and blissful sound of the rustling golden leaves. Looking at autumn from the perspective of an astronomer, the biannual phenomenon called the 'Equinox' - where days and nights are of equal duration occurs in Autumn and Spring.

~Deeptarka Dey 9C

## SPELL OF NATURE

Like a whisper, soft and muted

The wind approached her undisputed  
Gently blowing across her glistening face  
And left just as soon, without a trace

The shifting weather and the calm surrender  
She sold herself to the realm of autumn  
The leaves of wisdom tripping over  
The ocean of saffron with splatters of cotton

Her canvas was empty, her savings penniless,  
In her hands lay a quilt to pen her life  
She sought refuge in autumn's abode  
Its warmth overpowering her darkest of times

The spell of nature had her in dazeful reverie  
She let go of her sorrows, let go of her past  
Her mind felt at peace, but she knew it won't last  
For in the livid summer day lies the furious night's  
contrast

But she knew it would all be temporary  
The autumn scents and scenes captured her  
memory

The fragile sounds earth's leaves rustling  
Leaving that behind would have to be troubling

The only doubt in her mind was this  
A doubt that the autumn aura couldn't let her miss  
Could it help her leave here and enter sweet bliss  
Or be witness to her fall  
down the bottomless abyss?

~ Samriddhi Viswanathan 9B



# The Fall Herald

## SUNSET HUES AND PARCHED LEAVES

"Autumn leaves shower like gold, like rainbows, as the winds of change begin to flow." Truly, as all of us enjoy our Dussehra vacation spending time with our families at home or beyond, we look back at the year with a slight smile and reflect on our choices. Also known as the season of fall in the west, the season is one where the temperature picks on a sharp gradient and the leaves turn to a crispy golden. Many cultures have been noted to relate the concept of Autumn to the harvest season, with festivities revolving around food production. Animals and birds too migrate and prepare their supplies for the upcoming winter. Overall, it can be safely said that the dazzling sunset hues and the parched leaves of the season leaves us all enraptured and content.

~ Sanvi Ahuja 9C

## THE MAGIC OF LIFE

A vivid dream for you to live every day  
Life – teaching you how to do and not to say  
Hidden paths and roads for us to traverse  
Not just on our planet but in the entire universe.

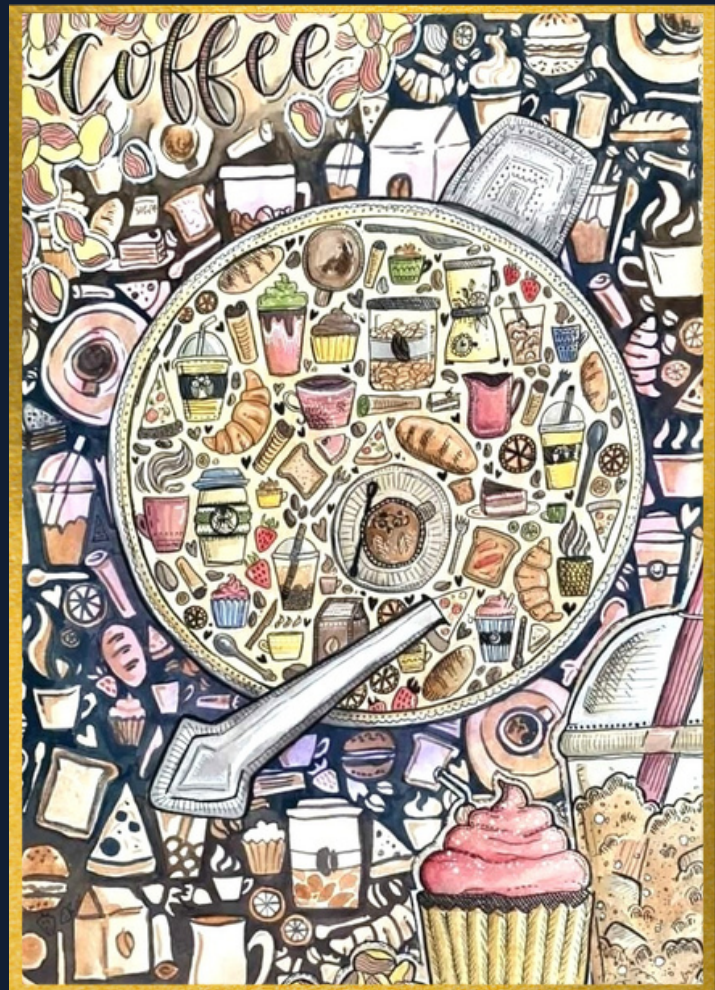
Every passing day and every breath we take  
All these opportunities and choices for us to make  
Each day is a new horizon full of chances  
A new day to discover life's questions  
and their answers.

We have this one life given to us by God  
Make the most of it, be ambitious, be odd  
Even if you are different, you can achieve  
something grand  
So shake the fairy dust, make a wish for you have  
magic in your hands.

~Hamsini R. 9A



~ Saanvi Joshi 9B



~Vrinda Tripathi 9B

# Forgotten Lore

## BLOOD RED LEAVES OF AUTUMN

Once upon a time, many creatures lived upon the Earth – big bears to little turtles. Often, they would hold large councils, yet the little turtle would worry. "I'm so little...What use could I be of?" She would often think. Yet, her hopes weren't as small as herself! Thus, days, months and years went by with no opportunities for the little turtle to reveal her potential. Finally, when all the animals expressed their dissatisfaction with having only the *Snowlight* to see by, it seemed ideal for the turtle to perform her good deed! Being the first one to volunteer, she said, rather eagerly, "Could I go up to the heavens to shine a light there?" Indeed, what was said was soon done – the bright, yellow Sun would shine high up in the sky, giving the inhabitants of Earth another source of light to emerge from the dark. Soon, the Sun was given a life and a soul – he could now move in the sky, and his wife – the Moon – was created by the little turtle herself. Many felt happy for this tiny creature, yet many envied the fame and glory she had earned due to her good deed. Out of those who were enveloped by jealousy, one was the Deer, who would often think, "How could that little turtle become so famous! Look at my slender, brown antlers rising up in the sky...can anyone match the deer's beauty?". Unable to resist the temptation of visiting the 'Land of the Little Turtle', the proud deer soon climbed all the way up to the heavens, with the help of the multi-coloured rainbow. However, unknowingly, he was followed by the Bear, who was jealous of the deer's beauty. When confronted, the anger soon turned into a quarrel, which ultimately became a battle – the bloodshed shook the whole Earth! Yet, even after the battle of the Deer and the Bear came to an end, the antlers of the former were covered with drops of blood. Tap, tap, tap – as the blood-red drops fell onto the leaves, which slowly changed their colour into red! This is how autumn's red leaves came into being.

~ Aarush Pandey 9B



~Aparajita Dash 9B

## HALLOWEEN

Traditional festivals like Dusshera or Diwali usually dominate the autumn season in India. So, when I heard the bell ring and a voice called "trick or treat", it reminded me of how Halloween had grown into a niche festival, prominent in certain urban pockets. Halloween is largely celebrated in Ireland and most of North America, especially in the US. While some believe that Halloween originated from the Gaelic festival of Samhain, others are of the opinion that it has solely Christian roots. Whatever may be its origin, Halloween is an entertaining festival that brings out the creative side in us through amusing celebrations, fancy Jack-o-lanterns and outlandish costumes meant to spook us. As I strolled down the road in my neighborhood I couldn't help but notice the effort and inventiveness of the Halloween decorations in some of the houses. I hadn't stocked up on any candy and had to disappoint my young visitor but I resolved to be better prepared for next year.

~Aditya Narayanan 9D



# Festive Euphoria

## NAVARATRI: NINE SPIRITUAL NIGHTS

A diverse country like India is truly known to celebrate various types of festivals by different cultural and religious groups. The celebrations are huge and the festivities are countless. They may last for just a day or more than a week. One such festival is Navratri, the longest festival in India, which lasts for a whole of nine days. In these nine days, nine avatars of Goddess Durga are worshipped. The festival concludes with the celebration of Vijayadashami, or commonly known as Dussehra. Dussehra marks the end of Navratri. It is celebrated as the tenth day in the month of Ashvina (September-October), which is the seventh month of the Hindu calendar. Typically, North India celebrates Ramlila and Lord Rama's victory over Ravana, which symbolizes good triumphing over evil. Dussehra is celebrated with great zeal all over India. In many homes, people clean their houses and seek the blessings of Goddess Saraswati. Food offerings are made to the Gods in temples or at homes. Performances of the Ramlila are also common. Lastly, there is an ambience of joy in the house with the preparation of exquisite delicacies like gulab jamun and rabdi!

~ Ashita Wadjikar 9C



~Riya Shivram 9D

## GANESH CHATURTHI

Ganesh Chaturthi, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi is a ten-day festival marking the birth of the elephant-headed deity. The God of prosperity and wisdom is well known by all, for he is always worshipped before any other god/goddess. The festival is celebrated worldwide during the ever-transient season of autumn among numerous Hindu communities, however, the epicentre of this festival is undoubtedly Maharashtra and parts of west India. At the end of the festival, the Idols of Ganesha are submerged in water to symbolise the departure of lord Ganesha to his parents' abode, Kailasha. The departure, however, has a much more spiritual and deeper meaning, it indicates that all things good and bad must come to an end. Whether it is the reign of the tyrannical British or the visitation of the beloved Ganesha. Just like Autumn, our beloved Ganesha's visitation is temporary, however, we should cherish this time, because much like Ganesha, Autumn shall leave us soon too.

~Ojas Ashish Kulkarni 9C

## SEPTEMBER TWILIGHT

As September comes to an end  
With mist and fog in the air  
From the trees the leaves descend  
Dancing in the bright red they bear  
Night falls in a darkening vale  
On the horizon, and on every tree  
The leaves turn pale  
They fall and float around free  
And down as the fog unveils  
Grown extensively with the night  
Wearing the seasonal colours on a  
veil

With the bliss of the Autumn  
Twilight

~Rakshan Srinivas 9D



~ Ashita Wadjikar 9C

# An Ode to September



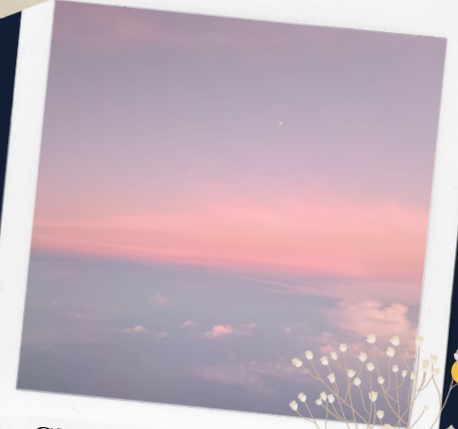
PRISTINE BEAUTY

~ Aarush Pandey 9B



AUTUMN BLOSSOM

~Hamsini R. 9A



SEPTEMBER SKIES

~Anaika Narula 9D

## TIMELESS BLISS

Curled up in a cafe, with a novel and a coffee  
Watching the blurred fairy lights out the window that's foggy

Late night drives with the wind in my hair  
Sparks from the bonfire and pumpkin spice fill the air

When the mornings are all chilly, and you draw little  
pictures on the misty windows  
The leaves have all changed colours, there's reds,  
oranges and yellows

Wearing new hats and scarfs and boots,  
Look now the sky is gold, and filled with balloon parachutes

Lunch in the pleasant afternoon when we're all together  
The cool breeze sending chills through my body,  
it's now sweater weather

The maple changes colour by a creek,  
Oh autumn with its blustery nature; so mystique

~ Sumaira Shantanu 9C

## FUN FACTS ON AUTUMN

1. The Autumn season has a unique name given to it in America – *Fall season*. Well, the credit goes to the British colonizers and their tradition of calling Autumn as the *Fall Season*.
2. During Autumn, one can definitely marvel at the sight of the brightest full moon! Often seen between September to October, the full moon is popularly known as *The Harvest Moon*.
3. The season is characterized by shorter days and longer nights, which later get reversed at the spring equinox.
4. On the other hand, Autumn seems to have its own health benefits as well! During autumn, heart attack rates are generally lower while those born in autumn tend to live long, most likely till the age of 100!
5. Finally, the Autumn season is the perfect time for apples, which are used in various deserts and other dishes during this season, and sales spike up during this time span.

~ Akshar Damodar 9B





# Events

## Upcoming Events

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas  
celebrations;  
Inter House sports meet;  
High School: Inter House  
cultural competitions,  
Career Counseling Sessions;  
Grade 11:  
Field trip for Commerce and  
Humanities students.

## August and September

Friendship Day Celebration;  
Grade 6: Young  
Entrepreneurship Program  
Pitch;  
Independence Day Celebration;  
Onam;  
Interhouse Events: MUN, Art,  
Math and Science, Quiz;  
Grade 10: Ted Ex Talks.

