



AG - Alumni Times

BRINGING TOGETHER GENERATIONS OF ALUMNI



VOL. 3

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

APR-JUN 2026



FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT,
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**Celebrating Excellence –
ISC/ ICSE 2026**

The Assembly of God Church School, Park Street, is delighted to celebrate another year of outstanding performance in the ISC 2026 Board Examinations. Our students achieved remarkable results across the Science, Commerce, and Humanities streams, with several securing exceptional scores, including 99.5% overall and multiple perfect scores (100) in individual subjects.

This achievement is the result of God's grace, the dedication of our students, the unwavering commitment of our teachers, and the steadfast support of our parents.

To our beloved Alumni, your continued connection with your alma mater inspire our students to pursue excellence with integrity and purpose. Your success stories remind them that they are part of a proud legacy that continues to make a difference around the world.

Thank you for standing with us through the years. Together, we celebrate this milestone and look forward to many more achievements as we continue to uphold the values and traditions of The Assembly of God Church School.

With regards,

Lionel Chellappa
Principal and Assistant Administrator

CAMPUS BULLETIN

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: ISC & ICSE RESULTS SHINE BRIGHT

The recent ISC and ICSE results have once again highlighted the remarkable achievements of the students of The Assembly of God Church School, Park Street, showcasing not only their dedication but also the institution's commitment to academic excellence. With outstanding performances across Science, Commerce, and Humanities, this year's graduates have set a new benchmark of success.

Their success is not only a personal triumph but also a collective celebration for teachers, parents, and peers of The Assembly of God Church School, Park Street who have supported them throughout their journey.

2026 RESULTS : CELEBRATING AGITES & THEIR SUCCESSES

The Assembly of God Church School
125/1 Park Street, Kolkata-700017

ICSE-2026
Congratulations
On Your Success

Science


Jion Ghosh
99.2%


Aatreyi Gupta
99.0%


Samadarshi Ghosh
98.8%

The Assembly of God Church School
125/1 Park Street, Kolkata-700017

ICSE-2026
Congratulations
On Your Success

Commerce


Vaibhav Agarwal
97.0%


Shayan Alam
96.0%

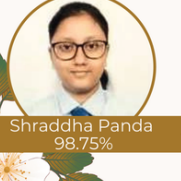

Pulkit Agarwal
93.2%

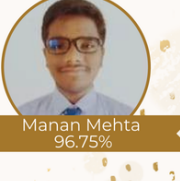
The Assembly of God Church School
125/1 Park Street, Kolkata-700017

ISC-2026
Congratulations
On Your Success

Science


Arjesh Samaddar
99.5%

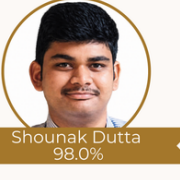

Shraddha Panda
98.75%

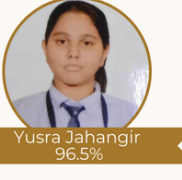

Manan Mehta
96.75%

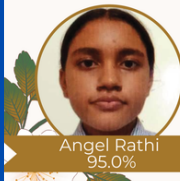
The Assembly of God Church School
125/1 Park Street, Kolkata-700017

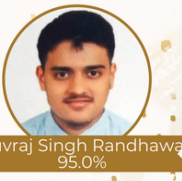
ISC-2026
Congratulations
On Your Success

Commerce


Shounak Dutta
98.0%


Yusra Jahangir
96.5%

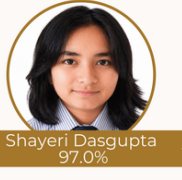

Angel Rathi
95.0%

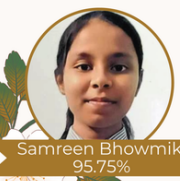

Yuvraj Singh Randhawa
95.0%

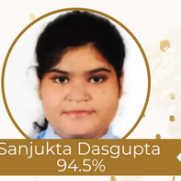
The Assembly of God Church School
125/1 Park Street, Kolkata-700017

ISC-2026
Congratulations
On Your Success

Humanities


Shayeri Dasgupta
97.0%


Samreen Bhowmik
95.75%


Sanjukta Dasgupta
94.5%

**THREE CHEERS TO BUNTAIN HOUSE,
WINNER FOR THE SESSION 2025-2026!**

DOWN MEMORY LANE

A LIFELONG BOND WITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH SCHOOL

Recently, I received a delightful phone call from fellow AG School alumnus, Surajit Kundu, inviting me to contribute an article for the School Alumni Newsletter. I accepted with great pleasure. As I began writing, I realised that capturing over six decades of my family's association with the Assembly of God Church School in just a few paragraphs would be no easy task.

Our journey with the school began in May 1964, when my mother joined the staff under the principalship of Mrs. G. D. Shaw. She was expecting me at the time, and I was born later that year during the Christmas vacation.

For us, AG School was never just a place of work or learning—it became an integral part of our lives. More importantly, it introduced us to extraordinary individuals whose compassion and faith left a lasting impact, especially our beloved Pastor and Mrs. Buntain.

Among the many cherished memories, one stands above all. As a toddler, I developed a serious vision problem, and despite every effort, my parents were unable to secure an appointment with one of Kolkata's leading eye specialists. Seeing my mother's distress, Pastor Buntain prayed with her and simply said, "Go home, get your son ready, and ask your husband to be there." Within an hour, he personally drove my parents and me to his close friend, the renowned physician Dr. Chadha, who arranged an appointment with the specialist. Under his treatment, my eyesight was restored. Looking back, I can only say, "Praise be to God."

My sister Anita and I were privileged to receive our education at Assembly of God Church School from Lower Nursery through Class XII. Anita (Batch of 1981, ISC), pursued English Hons. & B.Ed. & later returned to serve as an English teacher at the Assembly of God Church School, Tollygunge.

After graduating in Hotel Management, Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition from the Government College, Taratala, I worked with the Taj Group of Hotels, at Mumbai & Bangalore, before returning to Kolkata in 1991. What was meant to be a three-month assignment as Catering Officer at the Mission became fourteen unforgettable years of service.

Those years gave me the privilege of working closely with Rev. (Dr.) Mrs. Huldah Buntain and many remarkable leaders, including Ms. Vimla Subaiya, Mr. L. W. Hartnett, Dr. Solomon, and Dr. Ronald Shaw. Their dedication, humility, and unwavering faith profoundly shaped both my professional and personal life. Mrs. Buntain's words continue to resonate with me even today. Although I resigned from the Mission in 2005 due to personal reasons, my association with AG School and the Mission has never truly ended.

Looking back, I realise that AG School gave me far more than an education. It gave me a foundation of faith, lifelong friendships, inspiring mentors, and values that have shaped my life. For these immeasurable blessings, I remain deeply grateful to God and to everyone who made Assembly of God Church School not just a school, but a place where lives were transformed. It has been one of life's greatest privileges to belong to the AG family.

MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST



ANIL JOHN
- 1983 ISC BATCH



FORMER TEACHER
LATE MRS. SUSY JOHN
- 1964 to 1996

DOWN MEMORY LANE

My brother Sanjay and I remain deeply shaped by our years at AG School, Royd Street. Those early years gave us academic grounding and values that guided our lives. Sanjay moved to the United States, where he served as Vice President at companies like Starbucks and Hershey's. My path led to ministry and service at the Assembly of God Church, including as CEO of AG Hospital, before I later moved to Canada and the United States. I've been privileged to author several books. You can check on my website (www.amitabhsingh.com).

AMITABH SINGH
- 1986 ISC Batch



Looking back fills me with gratitude. I remember with great respect our founders Dr. Mark and Dr. Huldah Buntain, the school chapel's quiet reverence, and Principal Mr. Malvea reading our marks aloud - terrifying then, meaningful now. Four houses - Greenway, Hogan, Greisen, and Buntain - came together perfectly for games and competitions. I remember monsoon floods, school meals, basketball, debates, and how our uniforms erased divides of class and faith. That unity recalls old Nahoum & Sons, bakers since 1902, where a Jewish owner had Muslim workers making Plum Cakes for Hindu customers celebrating Christmas. Thank you, Calcutta.

I'm profoundly thankful to teachers like Aunty Finnerty, Mrs. Mukherjee, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Druart, Mr. Stone,

Mr. Mukherjee, Mr. Samuel, Mr. Das, Mr. Singh, Mr. Khan, Mr. Robson, Mr. Atkins, Mr. Rai, Mr. Dey, Mr. Rodgers, Mrs. John, Mrs. Chacko, Mrs. Kessop, Mrs. Samuel, Miss Kurian, Mrs. Sekhar, Miss Thomas, Miss S. Raj, Mrs. Ghosh, Mr & Mrs Nandakumar,, Mr & Mr. Peters, Mr. Bar, Mr. Malvea, Dr. Shaw, and not to forget Mrs. Abraham, whose niece (Susan) I married. Phew, glad I remembered that one.

We've sadly lost classmates - Joseph Appasawmy, Manish Dhandhanian, Kim Kapper, and Tanweer Haroon - whom we honor. To all my classmates, my very best wishes.

Thanks to the AG Alumni community for keeping us connected to where our journey began.

50 years ago, on a cool January morning in 1976, a young girl of Chinese origin, walked into 18 Royd Street, excited for the prospect of higher studies. Her mind absorbed the faces, noises and changing sounds of people talking and walking past her in their busyness. Coming from a conservative, minority community, she was quiet and watchful. Being good in studies, school life was fun for her. The first time she was disciplined in school was because she passed a ruler to a deskmate when they were told to stay quiet. When their first semester examination result came out, one parent came up to her and asked if she was the girl who beat his son. Boldly, she replied in the affirmative and smiled.

Once, a substitute teacher sent her out of his class unfairly. She went straight to the Principal's office for help, and was heard and helped. When her scholarship was stopped, she went to Mrs. Buntain's office to appeal for an extension, which was approved on the spot. She served as school prefect, Buntain House vice captain, sang in the choir, led the march past into the chapel for an event and was appointed as School Captain. She was the first girl School Captain.

Today, as I look back, my fondest memories of 18 Royd Street were the people working there. From my beloved teachers, all of whom I remember dearly, the substitute teacher, to the staff working in various departments in the school and church offices. They represented different states of this country, bringing their cultures and beliefs. In this diverse community, we learned to respect and appreciate each other's differences. Most of them treated us as their juniors, not as their students. Others treated us as their own children, united under the principle of "My utmost for His highest".

I lived out this principle for most of my life as a daughter, sister, teacher, wife and mother. I serve as a teacher, coach, and counselor in a Christian organisation. There is no retirement age for me. **I'm full of life and zeal to "Leave this place better than when I found it."**

My heartfelt thanks to founders, Rev. and Mrs. Buntain for their obedience to God's calling to come to Calcutta.

Hats off to all my teachers and the staff, who modelled kindness and passion of education to improve lives beyond themselves.

SANDRA LIU
- 1982 ISC BATCH



HEALTH MATTERS : WHAT THE EXPERT SAYS...



COMPUTER VISION SYNDROME

Computer Vision Syndrome is also known Digital eye strain syndrome and is presently prevalent around the globe affecting almost all age group of the human population. It can also be considered as an occupational hazard related to eye and vision related problem due to prolonged and uninterrupted use of computers, tablets and smart phones. Common symptoms are headaches, blurred vision, head and/or shoulder pain, eye strain and dry eyes. It occurs due to screen glare, improper lighting, poor posture and uncorrected vision with spectacles. The risk increases after more than two hours of continuous screen time.

Common Symptoms

- 1) Ocular- Eye strain, burning sensation, itching, redness, reflex tearing and eye fatigue.
- 2) Visual- Double or blurred vision and difficulty in re focusing between screen and distant object.
- 3) Extra ocular- Headache, shoulder, neck and back pain.

Risk factors

- 1) Extended screen time- Using a digital screen for more than three hours daily or uninterrupted 2 hours increases the risk for dry eyes.
- 2) Reduced blinking- Viewers blink less frequently when staring at digital screens.
- 3) Improper Ergonomics- Ideal screen viewing distance should be 20 to 28 inches & ideal screen angle should be 4 to 5 inches below eye level of viewer.
- 4) Environment- Excess glare from overhead lighting, open windows or light source behind the computer screen is dangerous for the eyes. Also poor lighting and viewing mobile phones in a dark room is harmful for the eyes.
- 5) Uncorrected vision- Uncorrected eye problems like all refractive errors namely Myopia, Hypermetropia and Astigmatism. These need to be corrected beforehand by proper refraction and wearing glasses with blue cut lens.

Management and Prevention

- 1) Follow rule 20- After every 20 minutes of digital work, take a break for 20 minutes from the screen and look at a distance of 20 feet or more and count 1 to 20.
- 2) Ergonomic Correction- Keep computer screen slightly below eye level, use anti glare screen and sit about 20 to 28 inches from the screen. Keep your back straight while working with computer.
- 3) Lighting control-Reduce overhead lighting and use heavy curtains to minimize glare.
- 4) Eye Care- Artificial tear drops containing HPMC or PEGPG are helpful for dry eye treatment. Eye power needs to be corrected with proper glasses only. Use of contact lens while working with computers increases dry eyes.

Long Term Effects

Computer vision syndrome does not cause permanent damage but chronic CVS can lead to long term discomfort with consistent physical strain leading to decrease in productivity.

DR BHASKAR MUKHERJEE - 1983 ICSE Batch

D.O, FRCS, FRCOphth, MBA, Ph.D
Consultant Ophthalmologist

From our very own multi-talented Dr. Bhaskar Mukherjee giving us notes as to how to take care of our eyes in this digital world.

A life without Values is not a life — but a series of surrenders.

Its been over four decades since I left the portals of AG to seek my place in life. I did my graduation and settled into business with the firm my father had set up — and did great!

Ileena's request to pen down a few lines for the present day AG-ites. It came as a pleasant surprise, for I had never considered to ponder the years that have gone by. As I look back and consider what has changed since 1983 in the world around me, the single notion that came to mind was changing values. Not values of things — but moral values. We were brought up with some inviolate creeds in life: Probity, Integrity, Chivalry, Fortrightness, Compassion, Honesty of thought and action, were some.

Through life I have tried to lift up to these values. It has not been easy — orders going elsewhere for refusal to pay bribes, being beaten up by mobs, being slapped with false criminal charges etc. But the delight in holding one's head high and looking people straight in the eye is unparalleled. The reputation of being a "straight arrow" is something I cherish.

I look forward to the younger generation to adopt these values in life with a vengeance. Because a society without values is a vapid society. A life without values is not a life — but a series of surrenders.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil, is for good men to do nothing about it." — Edmund Burke

DHRUBO MUKERJEE - 1983 ISC BATCH



OUR GUIDING LIGHTS

A TRIBUTE TO OUR TEACHER

MR RAYMOND THOMAS, FORMER TEACHER

After reading past publications of The AG Alumni, it sent me down memory lane. Thank you Surajit for giving me the opportunity to share my story.

My life took a different direction when I joined the AG School in 1966. Morning assembly left a lasting impression on my life. Pastor Mark Buntain would preach and teach his heart out each school day. His passion and love for God's Word flowed into my life. Here are two scripture verses that stood out to me:

- a. No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.
- b. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

I graduated high school in 1973. I completed my teacher's training at Mount Hermon College with my dear friend Michael Druart. I started my teaching career in AG School in 1978. My fondest memories go back to my teaching in Rose Martin.

I married Carina Fernandez in 1979(also an ex student of AG) and moved to Melbourne, Australia in the mid 80's. Even though I moved to the other side of the globe, the spiritual and educational teachings I received both as a student and teacher has guided me through life. I thank God for placing Pastor and Aunty Buntain, all my dedicated teachers and later my fellow teachers in my life.



On my last visit to Kolkata in 2024, I had the opportunity to meet a few of my ex students from Rose Martin. We enjoyed a delicious dinner with lots of reminiscing and laughter. It was the highlight of my trip. I retired in January this year. I now spend a lot of time with my children and grandchildren. My time spent in church, classrooms and corridors of 18/1 Royd Street has shaped my life and the lives of my children. It is such a blessing to see my children follow in the spiritual principles that were instilled in me as a child. Everything that I am is because of God's faithfulness towards me.



**With my Wife on our
Last Trip!**

The ex-students from Rose Martin that I met in 2024



VOICES THAT INSPIRE

IN A WORLD OVERWHELMED BY BURNOUT, DISCONNECTION, AND MENTAL DISORDERS, SAARMISHTHAA OFFERS A REVOLUTIONARY APPROACH-TRAIN THE MIND BEFORE IT BREAKS DOWN. SHE BELIEVES TRUE WELL-BEING IS NOT JUST THE ABSENCE OF DISEASE BUT THE PRESENCE OF SELF-AWARENESS, NERVOUS SYSTEM REGULATION, AND EMOTIONAL ALIGNMENT. HER CLIENTS INCLUDE ENTREPRENEURS, EDUCATORS, PROFESSIONALS, AND GLOBAL CHANGEMAKERS- PEOPLE READY TO RISE ABOVE INHERITED LIMITATIONS AND LEAD FROM THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL.

I remember myself as an average student, ambitious at heart but without the clarity or confidence to act on it. Most of my decisions were driven by emotion rather than direction. I was focused more on what I did not want to become than on what I truly wanted to be. Looking back, I realize that this lack of vision slowed me down. When you do not know where you are going, your efforts lose direction.

For many years, I chose what felt familiar and safe. I became a homemaker because it aligned with what I thought I should be, not necessarily what I deeply wanted. It was only later in life, during a phase of constant internal struggle and low motivation, that I began to question myself. Every day felt like a quiet battle within.

That phase led me to understand emotional intelligence. I started learning how to identify my triggers, sit with my emotions, and process them instead of avoiding them. This changed everything. When the mind is calmer, it becomes easier to think clearly, make decisions, and stay consistent.

Over time, I realized that emotional intelligence and intellectual ability are closely connected. When you learn to manage your emotions, your ability to learn, focus, and grow improves. Many people focus only on intelligence in the academic sense, but without emotional balance, it becomes difficult to sustain that growth.

Today, I am an author of 4 books, a practitioner in holistic health, my research paper has been published in scientific journal, developed my own method to holistic health. This journey was not easy. It required showing up for myself every single day and choosing growth even when it was uncomfortable.

My advice to all of you is simple. Create a clear vision of what you want to become. At the same time, learn to understand and manage your emotions. Both are essential for a stable and meaningful path forward.



1990 ISC BATCH

Education

Master's in Transpersonal Psychology

Postgraduate Diploma in Transpersonal Regression Therapy

Diploma in Integrated Clinical Hypnotherapy

Diploma in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Saarmishthaa Mitra

Founder & CEO
The Wellbeing Sanctuary

Visionary Thought Leader in
Holistic Health & Subconscious
Mind Mastery

Contact Information

Reach Out |Collaborate |Transform

www.yourwellbeingsanctuary.com

saarmishthaamitra@yourwellbeingsanctuary.com

+971 55 880 6160

Dubai, UAE

EDITOR'S DESK

EDITORIAL DESK

While the country sees the youth and citizens voicing themselves in various platforms, We Ag-ites , take a break to look back, gather our seniors, friends, classmates to share their thoughts to bring this 3rd edition of the Alumni Newsletter to you.

School is where my life began and surely for all I guess. So many years have gone by since then, yet reminiscing about those days-whenever we meet--makes us laugh, cry, and wonder how time flies and leaves its mark within us in various ways.

Here in these few pages , we have been extremely fortunate to get our 3 former School Captains Sandra Liu (the first Girl to be a School Captain that AGCS can boast of), Dhruva Mukherjee & Amitabh Singh. Saarmisthaa Mitra-who made a mark for herself on distant shores, Anil John our senior, and son of our beloved teacher Late Mrs. Susy John. We were fortunate to have lived with the love and care of Mrs. John, one of our founder Teachers. We also feature with respect Mr. Raymond Thomas, again a privilege to connect with & communicate through this platform.

Let the spirit of camaraderie for the alumni grow stronger as you read through these pages.

The Assembly of God Church School Alumni, needs your guidance and patronage as we stand together to be a better person and keep striving to a better tomorrow.

Not to forget our Founders motto : Building a Better India by Building Better Boys & Girls !

My Utmost for His Highest.

DID YOU KNOW?

NUNAVUT RECURSIVE GEOGRAPHY ODDITY – Victoria Island , CANADIAN ARCTIC

The World's Largest island-in-a-lake-on-an island-in-a-lake-on-an island – A 5th order recursive island.

THE Nested Layers

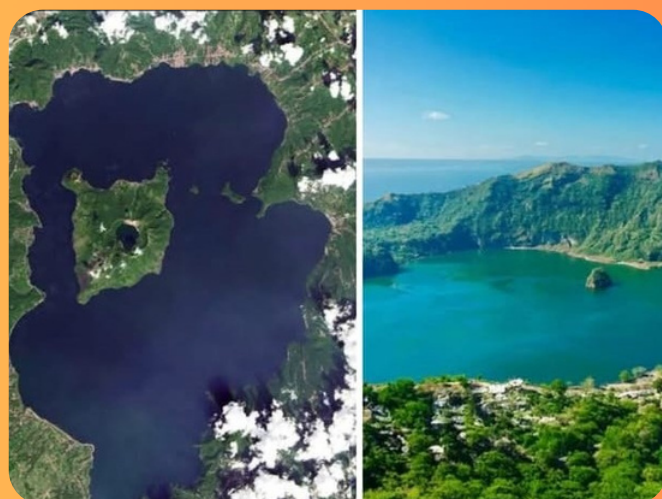
Layer 1.The Base – Victoria Island

Layer 2. A long finger shaped Lake sits inland on Victoria Island

Layer 3. An island sits inside that finger shaped lake

Layer 4 . Another small Lake Sits on that island

Layer 5. (The Center) A tiny seahorse shaped nameless island , roughly 1000 ft (300 Meters) wide – rests inside the innermost Lake. Experts believe no human have ever set foot on this innermost isolated Island.



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Write to us: agcsnewsletter@gmail.com

For membership & newsletter content, reach us at :

HEMANT KAPOOR	9831079833
SURAJIT KUNDU	9331001701
ILEENA GUHA	9433663048
PETER P.K. MITTER	9830529787
GAURANG DAVE	9333115180

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Registered Office Address:
The Assembly of God Church School Park Street Alumni
Association, AG Towers, 6th Floor,
125/1, Park Street, Kolkata 700017