

Beyond marks: CBSE champs who defied life's odds

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Calcutta: They are remarkable performers not just in the Class X board exams, but in the larger test called life.

Metro highlights four CBSE students whose marks tell only part of their stories — shaped as much by courage and conviction as by academic success. The results were announced on Wednesday.

Avishi Banerjee, 86.2%
Delhi Public School, Howrah
Avishi was in Class IX when she had to relearn how to write, this time with her left hand, after a stroke left the right side of her body paralysed.

In August 2023, she col-



Avishi Banerjee

lapsed in the bathroom after returning from school. The stroke affected her speech, too.

"She was in the ICU of the Institute of Neurosciences for nine days. After that, recovery was slow and required physiotherapy. She had to be taught how to swallow food," said her mother, Dipanwita Banerjee.

By October, during phys-



Om Ghosh

iotherapy sessions, Avishi began practising writing with her left hand. Her parents chose to prioritise her recovery over school.

"She had to skip classes because she travels from Dankuni to Moulali two to three days a week for physiotherapy. The school has been very supportive. Clinically,



Sourasmit Dutta

she is fine, but she still needs support for her right leg," her mother said.

After being bedridden for nearly six months, Avishi repeated Class IX.

She went on to score an outstanding 86.2% in the Class X board exams, scoring 91 in English, 85 in Hindi, 69 in science, 91 in social Science and



Trinath Das

95 in artificial intelligence.

Om Ghosh, 85.6%

South Point High School
Om has lived with a congenital heart condition since infancy, undergoing two open-heart surgeries — one at the age of one-and-a-half and another when he was seven. Now 16, he is likely to need a third.

The condition, mesocardia, was detected when he was just 21 days old. "The doctor noticed a murmur in his heart," said his mother, Sanchari Ghosh.

His oxygen saturation levels would fluctuate and drop to 60. Physical exertion is not an option. "If he runs, he gasps for breath. There are dietary restrictions too — his food has to be salt-free," his mother said.

Om sat for his Class X board exams and scored 85.6%, with 96 in English, 87 in Bengali, 65 in maths, 85 in science and 95 in social science.

He finds joy in reading, particularly about historical figures. One of his favourites is Napoleon Bonaparte.

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