

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

Saturday, February 7 | Issue No. 2394



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Editorial

80 years. The Dosco's have come a long way since the first student discovered the hallways of the Main Building, and yet it seems as though there's such a long way to go. Browsing through Weeklies of previous years, I noticed that the last Editorial written in the New Year's first Weekly was back in 2010. That was another milestone: DS75, the Platinum Jubilee. It seems fitting, then, that the next one be on DS80.

The coming year seems just like any other. New captains, new prefects, new hopes and new fears. Yet the world around these 70 acres is in a constant state of flux, and with the onset of a new year, we've seen innumerable events that have given us new perspective. Peshawar, Obama's visit to India, the Delhi elections today, the Charlie Hebdo-sparked revolution for freedom of speech; 2015 has already seen ripples on an unprecedented scale. Modi's nuclear rise from tea-seller to Prime Minister was the driving force of 2014, a force that continues to this day with a rapidly changing political landscape. The past couple of months have arguably been the most eventful in a long, long time.

And so it is with us.

Since DS75, the entire schedule has changed to incorporate shifting educational practices. Huge portions of almost all the Main Houses, as well as Skinner's Field, have been redone, and communal bathing has finally been done away with. In 2011, Jaipur House won the Grand Slam for the first time in the School's history, and for the first time, in 2013, a student of Doon achieved a perfect score in the IB. The list is long, a story written day by day for the past five years.

And now here we are. For us SC's, it's been the blink of an eye. For all of us, really. But our last year isn't over yet. In the coming months, the D-form will arrive, bringing with them an entirely new curriculum. And though it isn't confirmed yet, the bi-annual holiday might be reworked into a tri-annual one, a mammoth change which the Weekly plans to discuss in coming issues.

As for the Weekly, change is on the horizon. It always is, and with ambitious plans for the DS80 Issue already being discussed, as well as a few structural changes on the Board coming up, this year promises to be something different. It was Vivek Santayana, Ch.Ed. 2010, who put it best: "Demanding times are ahead, and we will be pushed to our limits of tolerance, diligence and sanity. But that won't stop us from putting up a great show." Here's to 2015.

Delhi: The Battle Unfolds

Anvay Grover writes on today's much awaited Delhi elections

While you read this, some people in Delhi are probably in the polling booths casting their vote. Today marks the end of what has shaped up to be a fascinating battle due to Arvind Kejriwal's resignation from his Chief Ministerial Post just 49 days into his tenure. While the majority of the debate and deliberation has already been done, I will attempt to recap all the action, preview the candidates and predict the outcome of the election.

While the BJP swept the Lok Sabha elections and the subsequent Legislative Assembly elections, Arvind Kejriwal started his campaign in Delhi. By the time the BJP and Congress started their campaigns in Delhi; the Aam Aadmi Party had already been at work for a few months and had established a narrow lead. It was looking as though the citizens of Delhi would be ready to 'forgive' the AAP for its gaffes in the earlier tenure; until BJP threw what it saw as its trump card: Kiran Bedi as Chief Ministerial candidate. Since then, Delhi has been embroiled in a series of offensive attacks, advertisements and overblown promises from the major parties. Before talking about the Chief Ministerial candidates and individual parties, let me just say that the Congress is well and truly out of the race. In the most recent pre-poll survey conducted by ABP Nielsen-News, the Congress was in line to win only six of the seventy seats. It has been a sharp fall for India's Grand-Old-Party, but it feels as though the party itself has given up. Their campaign has been remarkably tepid, with just a few rallies being held. So the fight has firmly been between the BJP and AAP for some time now.

If we were to look at all the members of these two parties, BJP would be the better choice. They have the more experienced candidates, while AAP have just one big name- Kejriwal. But elections are often determined on the basis of the head of the party or the prime/ chief ministerial candidates. BJP exploited this to a great extent in the Lok Sabha, creating a 'Modi Wave' in the nation. But the AAP has done the same for their campaign, rallying behind Kejriwal. This, coupled with Kiran Bedi's past association with the AAP and earlier criticisms of BJP makes it look like Kejriwal is the stronger of the two main candidates. This is reflected in the statistics compiled by ABP Nielsen News; while AAP was projected to win 18 seats in November, that number has gone up to 35 now. The AAP's vote share has actually gone up since Kiran Bedi joined the BJP.

Whatever the choice of Delhi's populace, I do have my doubts

(Continued on Page 5)



Regulars

Special Assembly '14

The following are the awards made at the **Special Assembly** held in November, 2014:

Music

Best Junior Tabla Player: Prabhav Maheshwari
Best Junior Instrumentalist: Angad Singh Trehan
Best Junior Vocalist: Harrsh Dewan
Best Senior Tabla Player: Aaditya Gupta
Best Senior Instrumentalist: Yuvraj Nathani
Best Senior Vocalist: Vihaan Bhatnagar

Debating

Best English Debater: Pulkit Agarwal
Best Hindi Debater: Arth Gupta

Historical Circle Essay Contest

1st: Anvay Grover
2nd: Sajal Bansal and Sasyak Patnaik

Cricket

RL Holdsworth Prize for the Best Fielder: Aditya Vir Roy
Ranjan Sahney Trophy for the Best All-Rounder in Cricket: Rishavraj Das

Science

Science Masters' Trophy: Palash Kanwar
Best Work in Computers: Prabnur Singh Bal
Best Naturalist: Arjun Kamdar

Design and Technology

Ishwar Chand Trophy for the Best Woodworker: Dhariya Rastogi
Kandari Lal Trophy for the Best Metalworker: Raghav Saboo

Teachers Awards

Teachers Long Service Award: AAQ, MHF and PDT
Teachers Retirement Salver: Mr Dinesh C Bhatkoti

Midterms

Most Adventurous Midterm Trek: Yogesh Agarwal, Hrithik Shukla, Krishn Dadoo and Arunabh Utkarsh.

Assembly Talks

Shrivindu Mehta Trophy for the Best English Assembly Talk: Arnaav Bhavanani
Shrivindu Mehta Trophy for the Best Hindi Assembly Talk: Divij Mullick

General Knowledge

Ravindra Das GK Prize for Scoring the Highest Marks in the IPSC GK Test: Suyash Raj Shivam

First Aid

Trophy for the Best First Aider: Azan Brar

Congratulations!

Prefectorial Body

The following are the Prefectorial Appointments for the year 2015:

School Captain: Sahir Chaudhary

Hyderabad House

House Captain: Daksh Bhatia
Prefects: Yash Dhandania, Rohan Chaudhari and Kartikay Garg.

Kashmir House

House Captain: Devansh Agarwal
Prefects: Akhil Ranjan, Ishamaam Mahmood Chowdhury and Rishabh Agarwal.

Jaipur House

House Captain: Aditya Vardhan Bhardwaj
Prefects: Tanmay Gupta, Nihal Singh Dhillon and Shashwat Arya.

Oberoi House

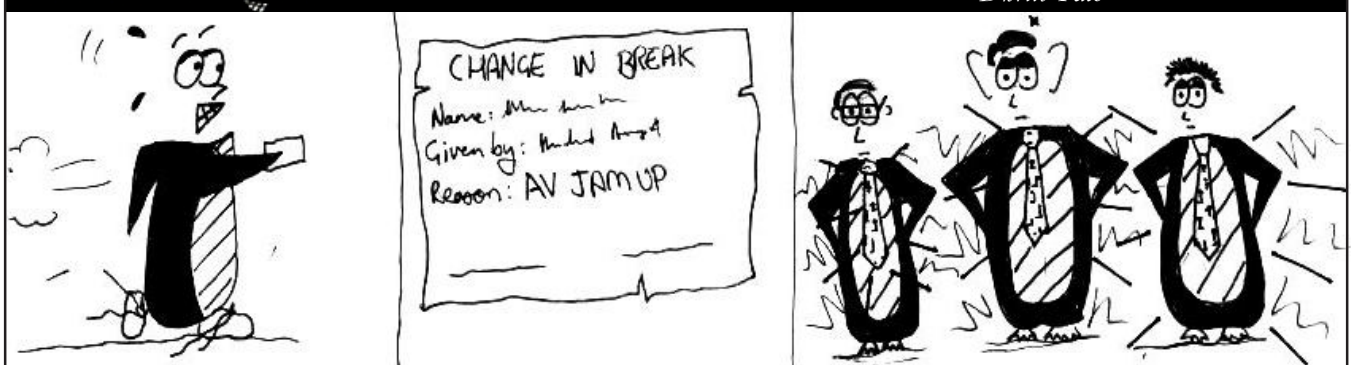
House Captain: Vedant Agarwal
Prefects: Shourya Kishorepuria, Nachiket Jain and Arunabh Utkarsh.

Tata House

House Captain: Naadir Singh
Prefects: Nikhil Saraf, Aryaman Panwar and Kartikeya Kardam.

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

Dosco Doodle



AV Jam Up?

Dhruv Pais

Open Happiness: The How & Why

Arth Gupta writes on the reasons behind the success of one of the most successful companies in the world

The “Why” is often the most important question of all. So let me begin with a very simple “why” question: why do all of us like Coke (yes, I’m referring to the popular beverage). It’s a fact that we all love it, and that we prefer it over any of its competitors. But why do we love this particular sugar concoction so much? I once travelled to a remote village in Nepal that had not roads or running water. Yet, they had Coke.

“ The answer to the question, “Why do we like Coke” is extremely philosophical, for this answer is not simply confined to the fact that we like its taste. To begin to answer this question, we must first understand a powerful theory from the discipline of psychology: Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs. ”

Believe it or not, the answer lies in philosophy.

The answer to the question, “Why do we like Coke” is extremely philosophical, for this answer is not simply confined to the fact that we like its taste. To begin to answer this question, we must first understand a powerful theory from the discipline of psychology: Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs. It portrays a ladder of all human needs and maintains that higher needs cannot be met until those below them are met. At the base of Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs lie the physiological needs of the being (such as air, water, food, sleep, homeostasis, excretion and sex). From a metaphysical point of view, Coke satisfies two of the most basic human physiological urges: thirst, and hunger, by providing the body with water and with the high fructose corn syrup that provides the body with energy.

However, this physiological argument is insufficient to explain Coke’s global appeal. Coke sells over 1.7 billion licensed Coke products every day, and this can be largely attributed to the fact that Coke does not associate itself with only the lower desires of homo sapiens. It promises to provide consumers with something greater, something that every member of our species wants. Ergo, Coke’s brilliant tagline: “Open Happiness”. Coke has successfully commodified the human emotion of happiness, thus moving further up Maslow’s Pyramid, satisfying the human need for love and belonging.

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If one were to look at several different Coke commercials, one would notice that they have absolutely nothing to do with the product that Coke is trying to endorse. It seems that Coke draws its inspiration from Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs to sell itself. For example, in India, Coke had severe competition from its global competitor, Pepsi. In times when fridges were a luxurious dream within Indian homes, chilled soft drinks were one’s only relief during scorching Indian summers. During this time, Coke envisioned and executed an amazing advertisement campaign to beat Pepsi. The advertisement said simply: “Thanda Matlab - Coca Cola,” [Coke means cold]. By doing so, Coke went straight for the Indian psyche, making Coke synonymous with ‘thanda’ [cold]. A few years ago, Coke launched an ad campaign within colleges of the United States by releasing a special kind of bottle from their dispensers that required the caps of two bottles to be interlocked with each other in order to be opened, thus encouraging college freshmen to speak and interact with each other. Now Coke had taken the form of a medium of communication, further fulfilling the need of love and belonging.

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Indeed, one can see how Coke embraces the subject of metaphysics to satisfy the the social need of happiness. ”

Indeed, one can see how Coke embraces the subject of metaphysics to satisfy the the social need of happiness.

It is indeed true that Coke’s budget for advertising is greater than that of Apple and Microsoft combined. The truth is that Coke sells everything but itself. It knows what its target audience wants and does everything to provided them with that, however elusive it may be. If in India, Coke is the “ummedon waali dhun” and “sachhai waali aasha”; if in the USA, then it is the way one can “Spread a little love”. Coke is such a successful brand not only because it knows its audience, but also because the audience is ready to believe what Coke has to say. I think it’s time that we look at Coke the same way Coke looks at us.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Ambition has ruled our lives ever since we joined School. But what we fail to realize is that this utter instinctive process is complemented by yet another important process; possibly the most important in our School lives: a sense of limited achievement. A Dosco invariably develops this quality; its innateness is indubitable. Stories of captaincies and colours echo through corridors of all houses. It is impossible for one to turn a blind eye to them. Social convention enforces these stories on every member of the society. He is institutionalized into thinking that his ultimate aim is to follow the engraved path. Not once is he told that these resonations are not the end. With these aims and goals, he works towards them in the hope that he will wear the same laurels and that one day somebody will resonate to his stories in the very corridors where he inherited them. However, in this very complex process, he fails to achieve what actually matters to him.

Over the years I have come to realize that this School is in fact a land of opportunities. However, the time old rule applies undoubtedly: excess of everything is bad. Now do not get me wrong. I am not saying that the number of opportunities in School have a negative impact on the students here. What I am trying to say is that we, as a society, limit ourselves to the very basic implications of these opportunities. We limit our sense of achievement to the very rudimentary. The very possibility of a realm of achievement beyond Chandbagh escapes us. Never do we think that our capabilities extend beyond these walls. The very fact that an opinion formed within these walls becomes immutable points out to the need of dynamism and a change in our thought process. A change is required.

Elements in our system are dynamic. Without considering the significance of 'Change is the only constant in this World' we internalize it but do not use it when most needed. Pragmatism, a quality discussed at large, vanishes into thin air when it comes to facing failure.

This term has just started and I have heard only a few cases of depression till now. However, what escapes me is the definition and fine line between disappointment and depression. We enter SC form and inevitably face a few disappointments in the beginning. It is only natural since demand has always exceeded supply.

Shouldn't we stop for a moment and consider the bigger goals in life? Once again, I do not mean to demean the position and authority of any position of authority in School. All I am trying to say is that as a society, we need to break the strings that attach us to these conceptions and limitations. In a world of constant changes, we are binding ourselves to these age old traditions. If we limit ourselves to the

monetary value of things life gives us, we will miss out on the greater motives and goals. I am not requesting my readers to be optimistic about everything; rather, to be pragmatic and realistic. We need to get over this sense of false achievement and move away from the very euphoria it generates, because in the end, as one of my friends puts it; "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

Yours sincerely,
Sajal Bansal

| Poetry |

Poem for the Weekly

Rahil Chamola

I used to think it was hard to write,
And it really is, I now see!
Sitting in utter silence at my desk,
trying to write a poem for the *Weekly!*

I've got a pen in my hand,
A writing pad in front of me,
but there's a complete lack of ideas,
the diagnosis; acute brain freeze!

Why do I undergo this torture, you ask.
Why do I push myself endlessly?
Ah, but it's for that moment, I answer,
for that Saturday morning paper delivery!

That moment, when the boys on duty,
hand out that six page daily,
and the commendations, they come pouring in,
and I bask in that moment of glory!

For those little pats on the back, I continue,
that mumbled, 'Well done', I repeat.
It's nice to know you're appreciated, isn't it?
Appreciated for your deeds.

Now, I am not trying to imply,
that it's a narcissistic tendency.
But, art well received by the viewer,
is art well executed indeed.

And it's this reinforcement I ask for,
it's this reinforcement I need,
that enables me to write another poem,
better than those written previously.

I used to think it was hard to write,
And it is, I've seen.
Yet I did it, I realize,
As I look down at the pad in surprise.
Hey, I just wrote a poem for the *Weekly!*

(Continued from Page 1)

regarding the AAP. The biggest concern is Kejriwal's style of governance. Last time around, he openly proclaimed himself to be an anarchist and sat on a *dharna* just days before Republic Day. Granted that he had differences with the Central Government, a Chief Minister simply cannot sit on a *dharna*. He should have realized that he is setting the wrong example for people. One cannot go and protest in this manner if one does not get what one wants. Such a protest might have made sense when Kejriwal was an activist campaigning against corruption, but not when he had ascended to the post of Chief Minister. The resignation too felt like it had always been on the cards; it almost felt like an excuse to escape. I also have concerns about Kejriwal's 70-point manifesto. He is promising everything under the sun, from reducing the electricity bill to half to wiring all of Delhi with Wi-Fi. We really do not know how much of it he will actually be able to do.

If we look at things from a different perspective however, we can see just why Kejriwal is the preferred candidate. His competitor, Kiran Bedi, has been slammed for her contradictory remarks to the press. She has gone from supporting Kejriwal's *dharna* to now opposing him. While that may be a solitary instance, the people seem to have caught on. The BJP has been forced to make snide remarks at the AAP in its advertisements. In fact, the BJP's daily investments in newspaper advertisements amount to approximately one crore and thirty lakhs! Lately, radio and social networks too have been filled with multiple attacks from both sides. The top two trending twitter hash-tags in India are *#bawalaatmidnight* and *#AAPFundingScam*, as reports about AAP's dubious funding schemes continue to pour in.

So who will finally win it? The opinion poll by ABP Nielsen News predicts the AAP to win 35 seats and the BJP to win 29. The Congress follows with a measly 6. Considering the atmosphere in Delhi, it certainly looks likely that Kejriwal will get another chance. Putting all concerns aside, I can say that he did a lot of productive work during his short tenure. But I cannot shake the feeling that in the light of Kiran Bedi's gutsy history, she is the better choice.

RSIS Mumbai

During the winter break, a few Doscos represented School of the RSIS, Mumbai. They



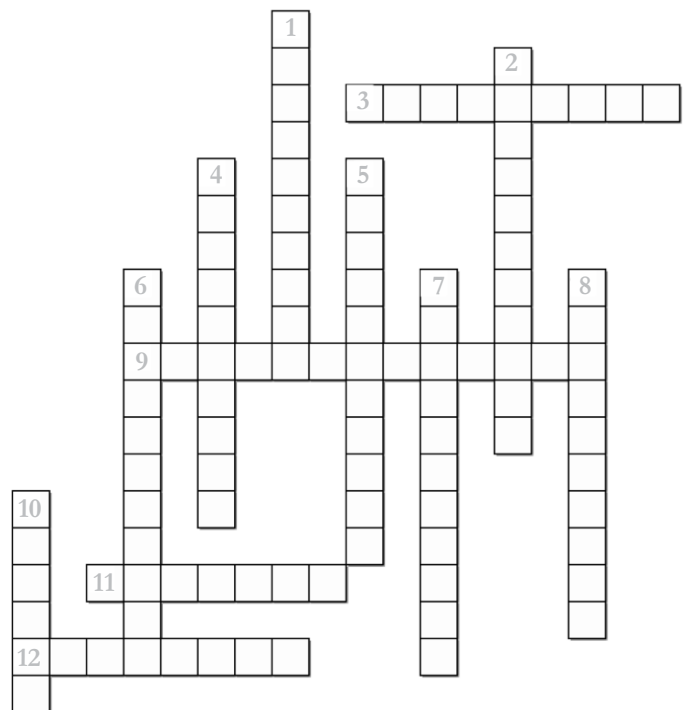
were part of a team that comprised 17 students from 7 different countries. The Social Service Project was in a

nearby village, Khumbargarh. The work we did comprised building a school for the village children, as well as a couple of houses. The students were divided into three teams,



the first team being responsible for the brick machine, the second team being responsible for the work to be done at the site and the third being responsible for laying the foundation of the two houses. After days of grueling work, the team not only finished completing the building of the school, but also made a house.

The Cruciverbalist's Corner



Across

3. tending to keep a firm hold of something
9. in love and obsessed with oneself
11. involving a feeling of mystic self-transcendence
12. very weak or slight

Down

1. an ardent longing as for something lost
2. neat and trim in dress and appearance
4. a small lie; fib
5. tending to remind one of something
6. extremely appetizing
7. disagreement, typically when public and heated
8. a cause of great trouble or suffering
10. of various types or from different sources

Source: <http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/>

The Week Gone By

Rishabh Agarwal and Arnaav Bhavanani

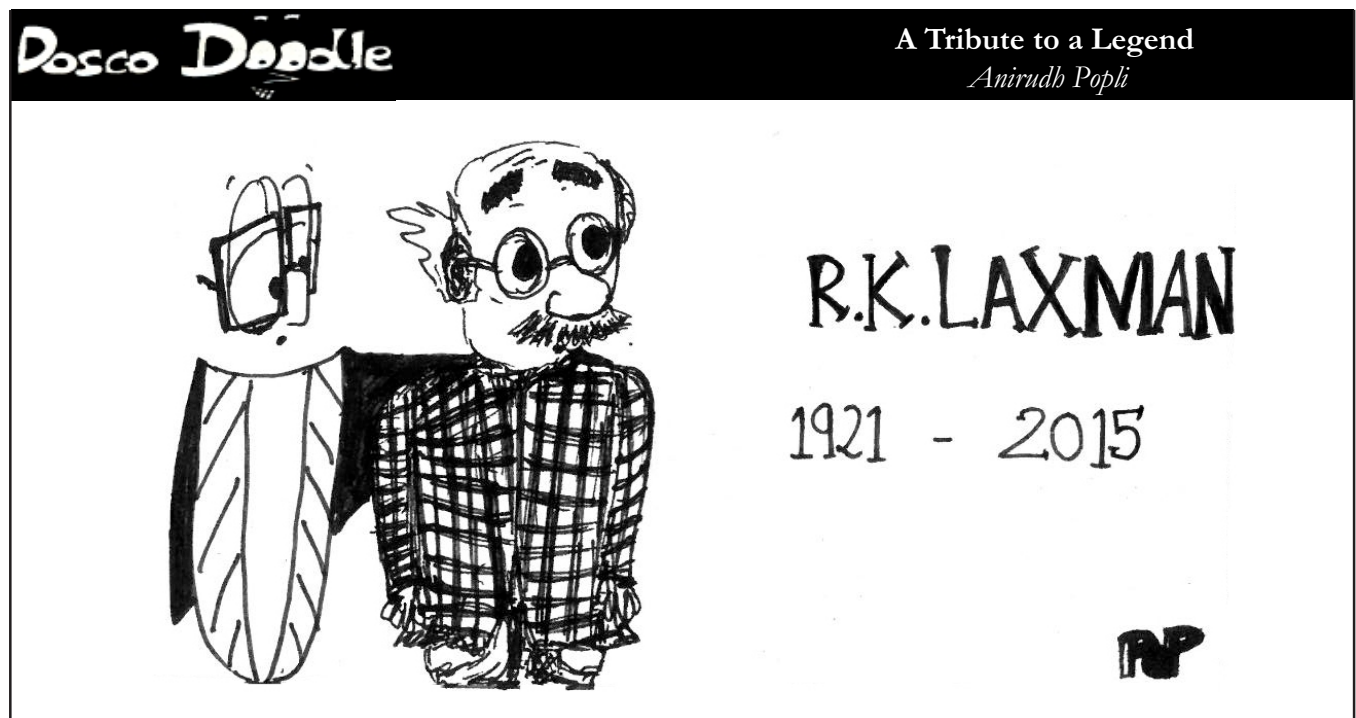
Finally, the first week of term is over. It was, at least for a few weeks yet, the most eventful of all. For the first week of February signals the end of *Scoping Season* and is the harbinger of real responsibility. As February 1 passed, everyone breathed a sigh of relief. But before it did, the anxiety could be felt across the skies. Different flights arrived at the Jollygrant airport in succession, carrying new, well-polished 'home shoes', suitcases with 'non-regulation' mufflers and innumerable 'eye-catching' posters. The bus rides back to School were full of excitement among the SC Extensions, prodding most of those who have now stepped up and taken over. For one night, Doon School was the 'city that never sleeps'. The next morning, however, had surprises in store. Seeing as neither of the two School Captain nominees was in School at the time, Special Assembly was actually just like an ordinary assembly in the Rose Bowl! It was noteworthy that out of a prefectorial body of 21, six of them were on the HMUN Boston team. Hyderabad, Kashmir and Jaipur Houses just had to do without their House Captains for a week, not to mention the School Captain! But in the end, with all said and done, it was the aftermath that lingers more than ever: the thaw in the Cold War; grace is said.

Meanwhile, not so caught up in the race, the SCE's and AT's seem to have brought with them innumerable suitcases stuffed with books, notes and files with sets of examination papers since the time of cave paintings. That would be it, lest we forget the well concealed packets of soups, instant noodles, toppings: enough to run a small deli and caffeine in various states of matter! As always, IB students are facing the hammer with deadlines and internal work to be finished. College acceptances have shown promise this year, and many more are soon to come.

These holidays too were more eventful than ever. Be it in terms of the national political scenario, or international affairs such as Obama's historic visit, the newspapers have been filled to the brim. School has been quite busy too, especially with an incoming IGCSE batch, the very first. Innumerable trips were taken in the holidays, such as the Thar Desert Trek, RSIS Mumbai, and the, HMUN Boston.

In other news, while we struggle on with our daily Dosco lives, Oberoi House is already grinding their gears for the DS80 Pagal Gymkhana. With high expectations being heaped on them, it's only some time before the walls start closing in!

Conclusively, it is good to note that teachers aren't completely averse to the cold either. In fact, some of them have even grown full length beards to escape from it! Truly, the chill is setting in hard, especially with the unforeseen hail storm on Wednesday. At the *Weekly*, we might be warm here in the Publication Room, but with each day seeming colder than the last, it's time to double up the layers!



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