

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

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From the School Captain's Desk

Sahir Chaudhary writes on recent developments in the School's student administration

In the run-up to Test-Week this term, the prefectorial body decided to implement a 'no punishment week' for the student community. It was decided that no punishments in the form of change-in-breaks, lines, or Extra P.T. would be handed out to any student in School. This decision was taken mainly to assess the impact that our methods of reform had on the students over the course of our tenure. The results were rather interesting.

“This decision was taken mainly to assess the impact that our methods of reform had on the students over the course of our tenure. The result was rather ‘eventful’.”

Since the 'no punishment week' co-incided with the Inter House Swimming competition, a lot of tension surfaced during the week. One of the ways through which we were able to gauge the tension was the feedback mechanism.

The same week, every day after dinner, I personally interacted with students of each form in their respective houses; asking them to evaluate, both subjectively and objectively, the performance of their prefects over the course of the year. While the feedback was occasionally ambivalent in terms of a particular form's opinion of a prefect, it gave me a sufficiently comprehensive and coherent picture of how the actions of the prefects have been perceived over the course

of their tenure.

To begin with, I would like to thank the School community for providing genuine, constructive and honest feedback for the prefects. It is not an easy job to be straightforward, and I particularly admire the courage with which the student community was able to express the truth. However, I would also remind the School community that the role of a prefect is not a simple one; the majority of the work which a prefect undertakes is adaptive according to different situations. Furthermore, our position in the command structure of the School is extremely nuanced as it lies between the administrative authorities and the students.

We all must realise that trust is a two way street, and the 'no punishment week' was an embodiment of the same. The School community must realise that in order to grow together, taking responsibility for one's own action is something that should top the priority list of any student. The no punishment week was an act of faith from the prefects to the student body- allowing them to regulate themselves. On the other hand, we prefects must also realise our prerogative: to be student leaders of the School community.

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with the prefects. It is the prefectorial body's decision to interpret the feedback in whatever way it finds best and act accordingly. It is their decision now to respond to the feedback in a constructive manner. Moreover, negative retrospective measures in response to this feedback will only prove counter-productive in the long run. Now that the roadblocks to coherent progress have been spelled out by the students, it falls on us, as prefects, to set the benchmark in terms of aiding progress in the School community.

In the end, I would like to reiterate that trust is a two way street and we, the prefectorial body, have decided to place our trust in you. We trust the students to be self-disciplined and therefore we instituted the 'no-punishment week'.

Our aim is to inculcate a sense of self-discipline and responsibility within the student community before we leave the School. But this goal will not come to fruition till the time both prefects and students work in tandem with each other.



Regulars

A Verbose Victory

The School was represented by Devansh Agarwal, Chaitanya Kediya and Arjun Singh at the **25th Oliphant Memorial Inter-School English Debates** held at **Welham Boys' School** from **September 12-13, 2015**. The team won all their preliminary debates and emerged **victorious** in the Final Round against **St. Joesph's Academy**. Devansh Agarwal won **4 Best Speaker Awards**, including one for the **final round**. Chaitanya Kediya was adjudged the **Best Speaker** of the **semi-final round**. The team also won a cumulative cash prize of **₹35,000**.

Congratulations!

IAYP

The following boys have been awarded the **Bronze Level** of the **Duke of Edinburgh's International Award**:

Amritansh Saraf
Atreya Guruprasad
Kanav Agarwal

Well done!

The Cerebrals

The following are the results of the **Dipankar Sen Science Quiz, 2015**:

Seniors:

1st: Tanmay Nautiyal
2nd: Aryan Chhabra

Juniors:

1st: Devang Laddha
2nd: Siddhant Singhania and Gunvir S. Paintal.

Congratulations!

"A creative man is motivated by the desire to achieve, not by the desire to beat others." - Ayn Rand

Welcome Aboard

We welcome **exchange students** Oliver McIntosh and Hrishikesh Goradia from **Scotch College, Melbourne, Australia**. They will be attached to Tata and Oberoi House respectively and will attend **S-Form** classes.

We wish them a fruitful stay!

This Week in History

1787: US Constitution is signed.

1793: The cornerstone for the US Capitol building is laid.

1890: Agatha Christie is born.

1932: Gandhi begins fast in protest of caste separation.

1939: The Soviet Union invades Poland.

1976: NASA unveils its first space shuttle.

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

Truth is butter.

Udayveer Sekhon, *then spread it.*

Let me take one more shots.

Aditya Vikram Singh, *kicks grammar away.*

Thank you Madam Chairperson sir.

Arth Gupta, *ends his debate.*

It my personal life.

Kushagra Kar, *now its public.*

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

Hungarian riot police have fired tear gas and water cannons to force back migrants who broke through gates at the closed Serbia-Hungary border. The United Nations has called for a special court to try war crimes committed during the Sri Lankan army's long conflict with Tamil LTTE rebels. Israeli authorities have re-arrested Mohammed Allan, who had staged a hunger strike to protest against his detention without charge. Yemen's Prime Minister Khaled Bahah has returned after an exile in Saudi Arabia.

Dosco Doodle

Entrapment

Anirudh Popli



Playing the Trump Card

Arjun Singh reviews the presidential campaign of American tycoon Donald Trump.

Donald Trump is new to neither politics nor controversy. In fact, he has been in the limelight of national media for both of them for quite some time. A candidate for President in 1999, the controversy-rife campaign he ran permanently caught the American electorate's attention; for even after dropping out of that race, the political community has sought him as a potential runner for every election since. His response to this has varied; always leaving an air of uncertainty surrounding his candidacy. It is only this election that Trump has entered the race with his maiden campaign: one that has departed from all conventional norms and surprised (and entertained) all sections of American society. Though he does not have much experience in politics being a tycoon; never before has politics seen a candidate as radical, as preposterous, yet as successful as he is today.

Trump's choice of election season couldn't be better. Given the chances, a relatively low-pollled Democratic President demitting office frees up the 'neutral' vote-base for Republican candidates; resulting in a score of them joining the race already. However, while populism and equivocation have seized most of their campaign rhetoric, 'the Donald' has rightly chosen to play his own 'Trump' card: controversial statements coupled with high-publicity, aiming to build popularity out of the ensuing media coverage. The content of these statements ranges across the spectrum of absurdity, with Trump utilizing every one of them to tighten the grasp of attention he now holds. Be it criticizing John McCain's prisoner-of-war record; comments on journalist Megyn Kelly's demeanour during a televised debate (which he metaphorically attributed to menstruation) or his 'strong' views on illegal immigration, Trump has constantly courted controversy and resisted flak – the effort coming to fruition with his recent surge as the Republicans' current frontrunner.



Like his statements, Trump's campaign content bears the former's qualities of political incorrectness. His chief focus: illegal immigration, has been consistent with offensive rhetoric of branding illegal immigrants as "criminals, rapists and drug addicts sent here by the Mexican government", and promising stronger border security with a "brick-walled border". Though angering the potent Latino electorate and harming his business interests, he has certainly whipped up considerable interest with this; in some cases even support from the moderate-right. A staunch supporter of military expenditure, he advocates for large increases in the country's defence budget; which has recently come under scrutiny for its astronomical price and lack of transparency. On

climate change, Trump describes Global Warming as a "total hoax...created by the Chinese in order to damage US manufacturing." The remainder of his positions have been both conservative, such as opposition to Common Core education standards (which raises curricula of English and Math), along with more mainstream Republican positions: anti-Iran Nuclear Deal, anti-abortion and birth control, anti-gun control and large tax cuts, not to mention frequent attacks at President Obama's policies.

From an observer's perspective, the Trump Campaign's sensationalist publicity tactics have numerically worked. He currently leads Republican approval polls at 29%; hovering with a double-digit lead above second-place neurosurgeon Ben Carson (himself building a sizzling momentum) and the moderate-favourite third-place Jeb Bush (at a low 9.5). With many such moderates

trailing in polls across both parties, the American electorate's mood has certainly been gauged: past political gridlocks in Washington between the President and Congress has left it fed-up with traditional policies and politics. Americans now look for an assertive candidate, with reforms that can change the *status quo* marked by unemployment, rising inequality and civil rights issues. In view of this, Trump's realization that 'any publicity is good publicity' has been key to his recent gains. Bernie Sanders, his polar opposite, has made a similar surge past the establishment favourite Hillary Clinton in the Democratic race with similar bold rhetoric. However, even he makes no comparison to Trump's overly audacious moves and control of the media machine.

In spite of this success, the Trump campaign does have hampered prospects. To ignore his views for the moment, Trump's media-centric approach has nonetheless made him a remote figure to most voters, who at this

(Contd. overleaf)

(Contd. from page 3)

“Such an individual is clearly unqualified for a position of high precedence as is the American President, where the ripples of one's statements are felt all across the world: having the ability to cause order or chaos.”

time relish personal interactions with candidates on tour. Considering that this period of campaigning is for Party Primaries (where affiliated voters select their state's candidate for the party's national nomination), such grass-roots level campaigning is crucial for its significant ability to form a 'humble' connection with voters. If Trump is to ensure a win at these events, he must increase the frequency of his local campaigns to gain preliminary victories in the states of Iowa and New Hampshire, where often the serious contenders are separated from the rest. Coming to his campaign content, it will be truly astonishing if Trump is able to secure primary wins at all. There currently remains no logical backing behind any of the positions he's taken so far; which in contrast present themselves as detrimental to America's interests. Furthermore, he has not only tattered his reputation with shallow positions and statements, but also portrayed himself as an extreme individual; who favours publicity over plausible behaviour. I do not mean to oppose the proposition of radical views, but there exists a manner for a candidate to convey them in a public environment; one more subtle than the extremity that Trump has shown us. Such an individual is clearly unqualified for a position of high precedence as is the American President, where the ripples of one's statements are felt all across the world: having the ability to cause order or chaos. Furthermore, the lack of a comprehensive Foreign Policy (other than criticizing important oil-supplier Saudi Arabia) in Trump's campaign is a cause of concern, given the importance America plays in international diplomacy and geo-politics. Without a clear stance, coupled with his likeness for radical behaviour – there is no certainty as to what decisions he could take.

Conclusively, Trump has so far proved to be a candidate of great sensation, yet little - albeit contentious-substance; and given his dismal performance in the most recent Republican debate, even the former seems to be receding. However, should he be running to win and not just as publicity stunt (for which I'll applaud him), Trump will have to make changes to both his campaign content and, more importantly, his own demeanour: transforming his image from a fiery demagogue to a candidate suitable for the American Presidency, along with the powers and duties it bears.

Affliction: The Indo-Pak War '65

Nehansh Saxena

“Ammi! What happened?” asked a naive Afreen, who was as fresh to this world as the bud of water-lily. She pounced on her mother's cold figure and found herself confronting a face afflicted by dispossession; and the *kajal* spread its obscurity all across her discoloured face. Zainab was her mother, and a soldier's wife. Her eyes continually welled-up as tears fell, drop by drop. Zainab didn't answer. They were despondently transfixed on the ceiling, as though she were waiting for it to fall. Her hands quivered in an apprehension that only the mighty Allah could foresee. And Afreen, a reflection of her mother in every facet, found no choice in herself but to emulate her mother's emotional demeanour. She had never received an intimacy as that of Zainab in her life, so all she could learn was from her. Her two brothers, who were invariably away from the precincts of the house were mere acquaintances to her. She never saw them, nor did they see much of her. Even on this day, as the man of the house was away to give his heart away for his nation, the two were brazenly out, not considering any domestic commitment. There, alone in the room, were two women: one cried for her father and another cried for her husband. A month had already passed into the war, and no news had arrived.

Hope survived.

“Abba said that he has gone to claim our land: Kashmir. He'll prove to those wretched Hindustanis who Allah will bless, I am sure! He said that when he returns, mountains of snow will be seen from our windows. Emerald-blue streams and rivers will flow through our backyard. The enchantment of Kashmir will finally be struck upon us.” Afreen made a desperate attempt to rejuvenate her mother's hearth in her heart, while remembering her father's motivated words from the morning he departed, clad in khaki and green, and intimidating boots that shook the very earth as he strode. He walked off with a small camp-bag clung to his side, not to return for a long time. Zainab allowed her lachrymas to flow on his departure. She wished he'd slip on the very puddle of her tears and never have to leave; she was so whimsical about such inescapable truths. She felt a softness of parched lips on her forehead and Afreen one on her petal cheeks. War was always propelled by love.

April passed. May, then June, followed by July, then August and finally the date 9th September, 1965. The end of the war. Zainab's eyes had sunken into despair, brought about by a thirst to see her man; the sight was unbearable. The prominent creases surrounding her eyes disallowed her to conceal the amount she had wept. Afreen was older now and as bold as her name. She was six. She had seen her mother waste her drops enough already but she had resisted her own self from giving any. Someone had to wage a war against their own fear to overcome it. As the door opened in the early dawn of the day, a bouquet of roses was discovered. It was placed elegantly at the doorstep. The roses were blood red. Zainab advanced another step calmly, with a sigh; she found a coffin covered in the *Parcham-e-sitara 'o' billal*, the nation's pride. She smiled, and then beamed with a new-found heart within her. Her husband died a martyr.

Fifty years have passed since then, but another Zainab still lives, to be consoled by another Afreen.

Le Palme d'Or

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Professor Shohini Ghosh, who conducted a Film Appreciation Workshop in School.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Could you please tell us a bit about yourself and your career experience.

Shohini Ghosh (SOG): I was always interested in the media and there were not many opportunities when I was at School. I used to wonder whether I should be a journalist or a filmmaker, and then I joined an institute-The AGK Mass Communication Centre where I now teach. The institute was offering courses on media and journalism. During my time at the institute I enjoyed what I was learning and that led me into deciding that I wanted to be a filmmaker. During the course, I decided to teach and realized that I liked teaching too.

DSW: What are your views on the usage of musical scenes in movies?

SOG: I think that in Bollywood, music and dance is very important. It is a very unique part of Indian culture. There is song and dance in nearly every regional cinema as well. So I take the role played by music and dance in films very seriously: they are very much a part of film making and an area that requires a very special level of expertise.

DSW: Do you think that the usage of Visual FX and graphical editing has diluted our ability to appreciate original aspects of movies? E.g. make-up, acting, costume design?

SOG: To an extent, yes, I do believe that the new ways of technology have destroyed the original ways of moviemaking. Earlier there was no option of editing anything but in today's world, everything from the actor's face to his legs can be changed. You just need a few clicks to get a scene done and no one ever gets to know whether the scene has been done by the actor or not. So yes, editing has definitely changed the way we look at movies now.

DSW: What are your views on Gajendra Chauhan's appointment as FTII chairman?

SOG: Even though Gajendra Chauhan is a prominent actor, most notably from the *Mahabharata* series as Yudishthir, I oppose his appointment as the chairman of FTII because apart from acting there are other areas too, where the person concerned must have the experience and background to uphold the reputation of a prestigious institution; something he lacks.

DSW: Do you have any final advice for students wishing to pursue a career in the film industry?

SOG: People today think that getting into the film industry is very difficult, but if you have a will then there is no one who can stop you. I would just like to say that if you are planning to pursue a career in the film industry, you will have to work very hard. It is hard work that will take you there.

|Junior Poetry|

The Lonely Road

Ameya Shawak

I walked down the lonely road, dark and bare;
All heard was my footsteps and the rustling of my
cloak.

People were dancing in the faraway land, partying;
While i walked midst the obscurity my heart felt.

There was hope in the outside world,
But I, I was lost; walking on the lonely road; in search
of the silver lining to my woefulness.

The bright world ignored me,
As if I never existed;

I was lost in the dark world,
From where I would never return.

They laughed at me,
They bullied me,
They teased me,

But they never listned to the call of my empty heart,
They never did.

And to this day, they never understood me,
I'm a stranger to this busy world.

Ignored, left out, my aimless life;
which has no end as it seems,
is leaving me behind.

May that day come very soon,
when I wake up on a bright morning and go to sleep
satisfied wit my life.

May that day be today.

The Book Review

Shivraj Bhatti reviews the Book of the Month, **The Short Story of Nearly Everything** by Bill Bryson

It is amazing really, the brilliance that is achieved on a regular basis.

'The Short Story of Nearly Everything' by Bill Bryson is aptly named. In this book, the author has achieved an unbelievable feat: he has made high order scientific concepts-found popularly in thick volumes-both funny and entertaining. Every page of this book will make you go, 'No Way', 'Oh God', and have a laugh. The subtle humour is what makes it a good read.

One of the myriad of topics covered in this book is the incomprehensible origin of the universe, the 'fluke' that surrounds the existence of life, and our pitiable knowledge of prehistoric creatures and microorganisms – the *real* king-makers of the world. The experience of reading 'The Short History of Nearly Everything' was both enthralling and numbing; for it led me to appreciate the evolution of Earth along with showing me the miniscule importance of the human race.

For all those who have looked around and wondered, "what, why, and how?", this is a book that should manage to satiate your curiosity. Happy Reading!

Scrutinizing the Voter's Ink

Aryan Chhabra evaluates both sides of the debate on 'Compulsory voting'.

Abraham Lincoln gave the most apt description of democracy: *Democracy is of the people, for the people and by the people.*

Every part of this phrase is equally important for a democracy to function properly. As one would have noticed the quote begins with the crucial aspect "of", showing that for any democratic set up to exist, people's participation is essential.

Inquiring even relatively about the position of India would have told you that our democracy is not exactly successful. Often there are reports in a newspaper or elsewhere where we see a policeman being told by a politician not to do what he feels is right because his benefactors have restricted him from doing so. While we frown with disdain whenever we see this, it is important to realize the real reason behind this. An important and unavoidable reason is corruption. Candidacies are bought; votes are sold while bribes and rich possessions are given to potential voters to woo them.

Activists, the so-called 'experts' and democracy-lovers all around the country have given one solution to this problem: to make voting compulsory. It has been agreed upon that the more the people participate in the formation of government, less are the chances of corrupt, unworthy candidates winning elections or even standing for them. However, compelling people to vote in a liberal democracy defeats its very purpose and questions the extent to which freedom has been granted to us. Therefore, this begs the question of whether voting should be made compulsory and it is through this article that I will explore the reasons of people not voting and also look at the ill-effects of making voting compulsory.

Let us first examine why people do not vote in India. The first reason that comes to my mind is that a large part of the Indian population is unaware or completely oblivious to any sort of political knowledge whatsoever. More often than not they are not aware of the manifestos and ideologies of any party, thus being unable to distinguish between parties while voting. This gives rise to corrupt and incompetent leaders who represent the interests of the selected 'haves' instead of the whole country. Furthermore, a significant part of our population does not possess a voter ID, or has not been included in the electoral roll, thus excluding it from this right. However, the biggest reason that one can attribute to people not coming to vote is cynicism. It starts to creep in with time, especially after observing one dismal performance after another by our elected representatives. We often see the elected candidates use their power to serve their own means and improve their own state, rather than the country's.

This brings me to the next section of this article: should voting be made compulsory. As mentioned above, cynicism is one of the biggest reasons for people not voting in India. But this cynicism serves no purpose. If indeed such is the matter, then the 'NOTA' or 'None of the above' option should be used to express one's disapproval of any party standing for elections. Not coming to vote will neither help the individual nor the nation. It is here that compulsory voting comes into the picture. Compulsory voting, by its very definition requires an individual to vote in an election. Thus the individual, not having any other alternative, waits in the long queue to choose his future leader. But the problem that arises here is that if the individual does not have any sort of political knowledge, how can he be expected to give a substantial choice? In fact, more often than not, the voter under compulsion chooses the candidate randomly and without any pre-emptive thought, which again leads to the problem of corruption that plagues the Indian society. Moreover, compulsory voting helps in significantly increasing the voter turnout rates. Low voter turnout rates have been viewed as posing a problem of political legitimacy, which is one of the major arguments offered by the BJP while implementing the compulsory voting system in Gujarat. However, this logic is flawed in its very framing of the problem. Does low voter turnout indicate a problem with the voter or a problem with the political system? What this proves is that the ones who are in favor of the compulsory voting system show no interest in reviewing the part of the system that does not appeal to the section of the voters who stay away from it. Instead, they find problems with the voter's behavior. Through history, we have observed that the simplest way to transform a person's attitude, or build consensus, is to remove the element of choice and hence make it compulsory. This seems to be more in common with authoritarianism than liberalism and so becomes a completely ridiculous argument. Lastly, voting has been wrongly assumed to be a duty by people and so there exists a belief that no damage has been done if everyone has been compelled to perform their duty. Let me be clear that voting is not a duty; a duty is something that benefits the public or the state. By our casting (or not casting) of the vote, it is not going to benefit or harm the citizens in any way. Surely, it might benefit you if your selected candidate comes to power but that's about it. To take a simple example, freedom of speech is a fundamental right provided to every citizen in India. However, this right by no means requires the citizens of India to tweet or post their views on matters of national importance. It is a different matter that some do and some do not. But the ones who do are not fulfilling their civil duties. And similarly, those who don't cannot and should not be compelled to fulfill their duty of "free speech". It therefore becomes absurd and redundant to argue that rights are also duties in themselves.

A vote has to remain a right and a privilege to retain its value. And so, voting should remain a personal choice. It should not be mandated by the state because if it is, it stops becoming a privilege and starts becoming a drag and leads to our political system losing its essence.

Charting New Courses

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Mr. Hemant Choudhary, who joined the School as a Geography Master this term.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Please tell us something about yourself and your teaching background.
Mr. Hemant Chaudhary (HCY): I come from Jaipur, Rajasthan. I have completed B.Ed., and M.Phil. and an M.A. in Geography. I am currently doing a PhD in geography. I come from a teachers' family. My mother is a teacher yet I have become a teacher by my choice. I wish to fulfil the expectations of my students in all forms. I want myself to be a medium of their aspirations. My hobbies are adventure activities, cycling, mountaineering and my favourite activity is helping people and making the most out of limited resources. Being an NCC cadet, I am really drawn towards mountaineering activities; which the School offers in plenty. Other than these, I also enjoy debating, essay writing and drawing cartoons.

DSW: From where did you derive the inspiration to become a teacher, especially one of geography?

HCY: I mentioned earlier that my mother is a teacher, so I derive most of my inspiration from her. Other than that, my teachers in college impressed me a lot. They had a deep impact on my life. Due to them I realized the importance of a teacher for a student which stimulated my interest in the field. I now wished to become like them. In view of the adage that 'a person remembers only two people: his parents and teachers', I too wished to be remembered by students who's lives I had a deep impact on; as my teachers did for me; for teachers are the actual guides for students towards their goals. As far as Geography is concerned, also I owe the credit to my Geography teacher in college - Dr. Prabhot Parikhi. Moreover Geography is a very good subject, not because I am teaching it, but because it tells you about your daily life, and is applicable in all fields - hence often being called the 'mother of all sciences'. It can't be ruled out from any sphere of our lives. Geography also has many hidden answers in it. So I think this is why I chose to pursue this subject

DSW: Prior to joining School, what were your expectations?

HCY: There is a pretty good reputation of Doscocs in today's world. Under this impression I decided to join this school. I used to teach in Mayo College, Ajmer before this. Although the set up is similar, there are some differences I find here in terms of students. They are always inquisitive and respectful. They are able to act independently at times. This is quite an impressive trait of Doscocs. Testament to this are the many prominent and successful figures around the world being alumni of the School. I think that its good to be a part of such a revolutionary institution. I hope that my expectations are not let down in the future.

DSW: In the end, do you have any message for the School community?

HCY: I believe one's deeds serve as apt messages. The way we teachers act and respond should be a message for boys. In every field we work, students should observe our actions and make an effort to emulate them. Also, I would end with some important words that 'no matter how high one reaches, he must not forget humanity.' This is the most pious job given to us by the almighty. We must always be kind-hearted and humble; ready to serve our fellow men and women. These are a few things which our students clearly have, yet must continue to learn.

In The Groove

Archit Barthwal reports on the IPSC Dancing Competition, held recently at the Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya in Gwalior.

On the 1st of September, PTV escorted 8 boys to the Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya to participate in the Dance IPSC 2015. The team comprised Aditya Verma, Angad Singh Trehan, Kalpit D. Sharma, Arhant Khullar, Rithik Hingorani, Siddharth Jain, Aaditya Shah and Archit Barthwal. The event saw 24 schools from all over India taking part in the fest with renowned actor Ashwath Bhatt as the chief guest for the event. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Vidyalaya bagging first in the Western dance, where the Doon School secured a 4th position missing the 3rd by one point.

The team only participated in the Western dance where we did an Oriental Hip-Hop and Pop sequence. The style was heavily influence by Vietnam and its lifestyle; the importance of martial arts, the calmness of the daily routine and the die hard love for food! For these emotions, catchy songs such as Only Flaw by Wayward and Len La Len La were used which really did justice to the style and message we tried to put across. The use of straw hats in our costumes really helped us bring out the oriental feel in the choreography as well as allow for an extra body part to maneuver, whilst turning some heads. The performance may not have secured a 'top three' position but it did catch the attention of a lot of people and was very different from what other schools had to offer. Despite our not having a professional choreographer like many other schools, we found our inspiration from renowned dancers such as Anthony Lee, Quick Crew and Fukshun though *YouTube*. The performance was a great improvement over last year's ninth position. With the constant and, indeed, dramatic improvement by the troupe, a first position performance can be aimed for next year. Also, other than just participating in the Western dance, the School Music Society will be encouraging participation in other events such as the Solo Classical and Group Folk performances, with expert guidance from teacher who will come and teach interested students.



The Week Gone By

CC Chengappa

And we thought that life would be easy after test week. Although some breathing space has been given to rejuvenate and recuperate for the final push towards Founders, the campus seems to be buzzing with activity. Everything that takes place in the course of the next few weeks will involve a huge workload on both masters and students.

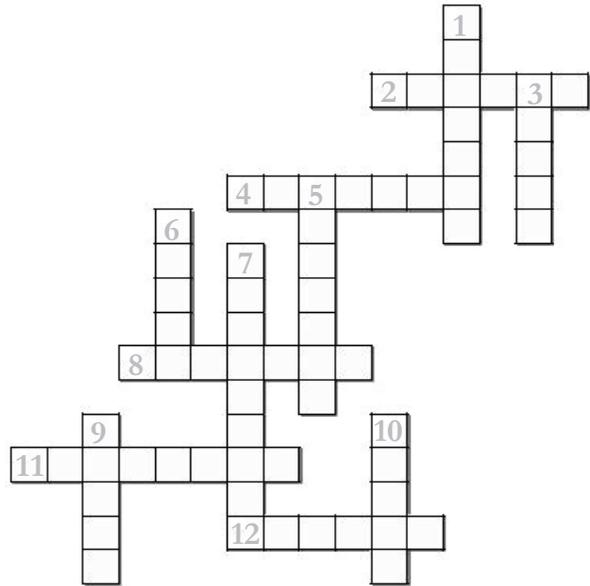
The week began on a bright note with the much revered and favoured early morning Physical Torture, something that brought back memories of the first day of term. The Inter-House Soccer and Music competitions commenced this week. As for academics, not much will be accomplished due to the recent conclusion of test week; however, the PTMs are upon many of us and are sure to get the boys back on track in terms of the academic agenda.

Inter-House Football surely brought the hangover out of most of us as this happens to be one of the only event that most Doscos look forward to. Some well contested matches have taken place and the support of the cheering squads was much appreciated. The highlight of the tournament is the astounding number of penalties being awarded. In the mean time, the Wellness Centre continues to deal with a number of grief stricken captains demanding reasons behind the growing list of injuries. Last week, the school team came back as victors from the Councils Tournament, thereby adding another well deserved trophy to their trophy cabinet.

The last leg of the Inter-House Music Competition concluded this week, for which the music department must be commended for their preparations over the course of two terms. Solo events such as the piano recitals and the drum solos were greatly appreciated by all. As always, the performances were of high quality and this year's choir segment witnessed the MPH come alive with the sounds of Punjabi folk songs; arousing many a soul from their deep slumber. This is a continuation from last year and a commendable effort initiated by the Music department to inculcate Indian songs as well.

Our boys can be seen running urgently around the campus in a bid to attend the various play practices and music rehearsal: all in the run up to Founders. Football will bring us to the end of the month and leave us to deal with the midterms, but until then it is up to us to carry on and keep up the hard work.

Crossword



Across

- 2. Highest mountain in North America; was formerly known as Mt. McKinley
- 4. The actor who played Batman in the movie 'Batman vs. Superman'; winner of 2 Oscars
- 8. A flattering talk; cajolery
- 11. The first Argentinian to preside over FIBA; the current FIBA president
- 12. The highest paid actor according to Forbes' 2015 list; his debut film was 'Pound'

Down

- 1. The Capital of the Republic of Guinea; World Book Capital for 2017
- 3. First Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Soviet Union; he was born with the name Vladimir Ulyanov
- 5. The agency of the European Union that manages the cooperation between national border guards; located in Warsaw
- 6. A Valencian town; La Tomatina is held here
- 7. Capital of Russia during WWII; now known as St. Petersburg
- 9. The author of the non-fiction scientific book 'Das Marsprojekt'; he is credited with inventing the Apollo Saturn V.
- 10. President of the US Senate; Vice-President of the United States.

Answers to This Week's Crossword:

- 1. Conakry
- 2. Denali
- 3. Lenin
- 4. Affleck
- 5. Frontex
- 6. Bunol
- 7. Petrograd
- 8. Blarney
- 9. Braun
- 10. Biden
- 11. Muratore
- 12. Downey

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