

Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot

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## 'PEACE IS THE MISSION'

The final moments and thoughts of a man at war.

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## THE ACTIVITY WEEK GONE BY

A reviews of the first-ever Activity Week.

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## THE WEEK GONE BY

A recap of our first week into the new Academic Year.

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# Britain's BREXIT Blues

**Rishab Bhandari** (Batch of '97) comments on Britain's approach to the world post-Brexit.

A big chill recently descended upon Britain with high risk warnings, blustery winds and anxiety for commuters. Some might also divine the stormy weather to be an apt metaphor for the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Britain's Brexit negotiations. In this regard, after months of delay, Prime Minister Theresa May finally delivered a key note address setting out a blueprint for the UK government's approach. Her speech marks an important shift in Britain's stance, both in tone as well as substance. With free trade under siege from a rising tide of global protectionism, there is a broader context to the negotiations. The stakes are high and matter beyond Europe's shores.

May's speech was important because for the first time, there was an acknowledgment that the UK needed 'to face up to some hard facts'. To begin with, there was an admission that life will be different after leaving the EU single market. She noted that in certain ways, access to each other's markets will be less than it is now. May accepted that the EU's structure of rights and obligations could not be sustained, if the UK - or any country - were allowed to enjoy all the benefits without all of the obligations. In other words, there was a candid sense that a political strategy of 'having your cake and eating it' was not going to succeed.

The second hard fact called out was that even after the UK has left the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), EU law and the decisions of the ECJ will continue to affect the UK. Granted that post-Brexit, cases will largely be determined in UK courts. But, where appropriate, the PM was sensitive to the point that the UK courts will continue to look at the ECJ's judgments, as they do for the appropriate jurisprudence of other countries' courts.

Further if, as part of the UK's future partnership, Parliament passes an identical law to an EU law, it may make sense for the UK courts to look at

the appropriate ECJ judgments too. Given the importance placed by pro-Brexiteers on unshackling from ECJ jurisprudence, this was a notable public statement that departed from a core ideological position.

The other fundamental call-out was that if both sides want good access to each other's markets, it had to be on fair terms. The PM noted that as with any trade agreement, the UK must accept the need for binding commitments - for example, it may choose to commit some areas of domestic regulations like state aid and competition to remaining in step with the EU's. It was illuminating that the language of forceful departure had elided into the language of necessary convergence.

Gone was the erstwhile bravado about 'Brexit means Brexit' and 'no deal would be better than a bad deal'. Instead, the necessity for a comprehensive system of mutual recognition was underscored. The PM appreciated that the UK will need to make a strong commitment that its regulatory standards will remain as high as the EU's with proportionate consequences for divergence. She accepted that this commitment, in practice, will mean that UK and EU regulatory standards will remain substantially similar in the future. She was also willing to countenance associate membership of certain EU agencies in chemicals, medicine and aerospace that would involve a financial contribution and acceptance of jurisdiction.

On the vexed question of avoiding a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland, May restated her ambition for a frictionless border through a 'customs partnership' with EU. Her alternative proposal for a customs arrangement was predicated on a surfeit of bureaucratic and technological measures. It remains to be seen how this can be worked through.

(Continued on page 3)

## 'PUSHING' LIMITS

The School Hockey Team participated in the 'United for Hockey' tournament, competing against Mayo College and Scindia School. Our School emerged **Runners-Up**. Ishan Roy was adjudged as the **Best Midfielder of the Tournament** and Anish Bhide was adjudged as the **Best Goalkeeper of the Tournament**.

Well done!

## THE RETURN OF THE JEDI

The Doon School hosted the Junior English Debating Invitational (JEDI) Cup with 12 teams participating. **The Doon School Martyn Team** comprising Lorcan Conlon, Nirvair Singh, Kabir Subbiah and Vir Bhatia secured **5th Position**.

**The Doon School Foot Team** comprising Adit Chatterjee, Raghav Kediyal, Sriman Goel and Vagarth Dwivedi emerged victorious.

Congratulations!

## AUGMENTING ARGUMENTS

Devang Laddha has been appointed the **Secretary** of the **Senior English Debating Society** with Yash Dewan as the **Boy-in-Charge**.

Lorcan Conlon has been appointed the **Secretary** of the **Junior English Debating Society** with Kabir Subbiah as the **Recording Secretary**.

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

“

No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world.

—  
Robin Williams

## SUPER SIXERS

The School Cricket Team played a match against the **Uttarakhand Police Cricket Team**. The Police Team won with 137 runs in 20 overs. The school team scored 122 runs in 20 overs.

Well Played!

## UNQUOTEABLE QUOTES

*Your eyesight is far.*

**Ishaan Ravi Singhee**, the far sighted Dosco.

*My legs between my head.*

**Vedansh Kokra**, upside down.

*Let us sing the national anthem of Kashmir House.*

**Gautam Singhal**, patriotic.

*You are addicted by games.*

**Aryan Pankaj Kasera**, I see that

*I am a massacre.*

**Mohd. Ali Husain**, no comments.

*H2O is aqueous.*

**Rushil Chowdhry**, going with the flow.

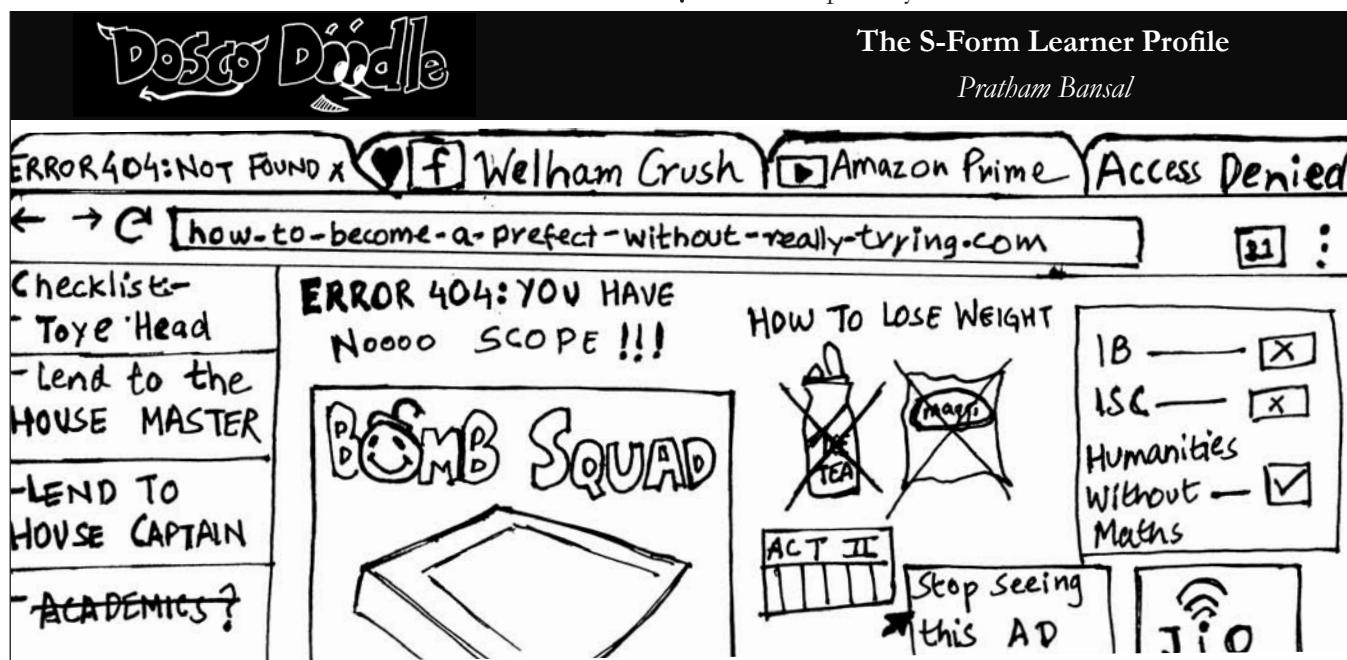
## SHARPSHOOTERS

The School Basketball Team participated in the **Under-18 District Competition**. The school emerged **Runners-Up**.

Well done!

## Around the World in 80 Words

Diaz Canel was sworn in as the new leader of Cuba. Donald Trump confirmed that CIA director Mike Pompeo met Kim Jong un and engaged in diplomatic talks. Manchester City won the English Premier League with a total of 87 points. Seven men and one juvenile were charged for the death of Asifa Bano, who was raped multiple times and hit with a rock to death. Air strikes by the Syrian government destroyed areas occupied by the ISIL near Damascus.



(Continued from page 1)

What should one make of the indicative direction of travel? It is clear that the reality of Brexit has begun to bite the UK government. The rhetoric of a hard Brexit has given way to a softer and more conciliatory footing. In many spheres, May's speech might well be seen as making a case for EU integration all but in name. Granted that UK Parliamentary sovereignty has been preserved in that the UK could deviate substantially from the EU if it chose to. But this seems to be a theoretical construct. A more likely proposition on offer is the spectre of the UK parliament looking to substantially replicate EU laws in the future across key areas.

Through this prism, the UK's Brexit course might therefore be distilled as coming down to the 'narcissism of minor differences'.

What about immigration though? Anxiety over immigration had played a pivotal role in the success of the Leave campaign. That gave way to the red-line that free movement of labour – a key tenet of the single market – must end. But reconciling this with the strains of an ageing population and the demands from businesses has been far from easy. Hence, the recognition that an 'appropriate labour mobility framework' will need to be developed.

As for trade deals with non-EU countries, this seemed to be the holy grail for Leavers. Currently, there is little evidence to support claims that such deals can be struck in short order. Mere expressions of goodwill from political partners have not been tested.

From a European perspective, a certain degree of schadenfreude would be understandable. Yet it would be a folly to remain intransigent by sticking to an entrenched position. The UK remains a significant market for the EU across a range of sectors, from automobiles to services. As Theresa May pointed out, UK located firms provided more than £1.1 trillion of cross-border lending to the rest of the EU in 2015 alone. This is a clear example of where only looking at precedent would hurt both the UK and EU economies.

At least, the British PM has begun a dialogue based on the necessity for a compromise. At a time where the tide of protectionism is on the rise – witness recent US calls for increasing import tariffs on steel and cars – it remains ever more important to make and preserve the case for free trade. The onus is on the EU politicians to demonstrate pragmatism too. The alternative consequences of a Brexit no-deal scenario will be far worse for everyone involved.

## 'Peace is the Mission'

Samarth Kapila

The cold bit the feet of the nervous soldier who had been edging his way through the crimson tinged field. It was about midnight and he was the only one alive. It had been a long and arduous day, one in which luck had seemed to favour him. All the others in his regiment were either gone or on their death bed, life ebbing away with every breath. His throat was parched, his palms and soles scratched; but worst of all, was the five-inch scab that was rotting along the expanse of his arm. He could see the red footprints that preceded him, glass shards piercing into his foot. He would have to constantly drain his energy - or whatever remained - into swatting the flies away from the wounds.

The only thing he could recall about his land was the heavily-propagandized radio, spurting out phrases which now held no meaning. One thing that he remembered vividly was the time when he was at the breakfast table, eating with his family. He also remembered his daughter, whom he had last seen four months ago, waving to him, while tears rolled down her face. The radio suddenly played a recorded message from the Great Leader, in which he ended off by saying 'Peace is the Mission'. What he reminisced was how everyone that was assembled

started laughing derisively at the irony encrypted on this message. It was now that the soldier realized just how sardonic the message actually was.

He had survived the past few days without any proper means of food or water. It was only hope that kept him alive, but, he knew that none will come looking for him. Only one thought continued to haunt his distressed and exhausted mind - what is the purpose of his life? While quivering in the relentless chill of the weather, his mind was able to find an answer to this cliché: Life was the contentment that people derived from doing something they liked. Looking around, he realised that he had failed.

Thirst and lack of nutrition only made his health deteriorate further, and now, his mind had begun wandering into the dark abyss of absurdity. Even walking seemed like an onerous burden, and he knew he couldn't go any further. He now lay on the scarred slope just as he heard the first few shells launching off in the distance, he stayed there and shut his eyes. Had he achieved any form of satisfaction? Was this really the aim of his life? Before such an answer could come to him, he knew he had taken his very last breath.

# The 'Activity Week' Gone By

*A recount of the first-ever Activity Week.*

After returning to School after a tiring midterm expeditions, most of the community looked forward to a relaxing 'Activity Week.' To the contrary, Activity Week became, for some, even more taxing than an ordinary school week.

The week's highlight was the introduction of a 'walk-in-walk-out' meals system, which allowed students to get adequate amount of rest and attend breakfast or lunch at their own volition.

Several workshops began with full gusto. The Ultimate Frisbee Workshop generated tremendous enthusiasm and appealed to many in the school community. It especially struck a chord with the junior forms. On the other side of the campus, the School also witnessed great oratory prowess at display with the much-awaited Junior English Debating Championship (JEDI). Over a stretch of late nights and tough debates, our Doon School Foot team paved their way to the finals, where the diligence of the team and the master-in-charge MLV, finally came to fruition. Many witnessed the strenuous Final debate between the host team and St. Joesphs Academy, which saw the former lift the trophy..

Alongside the debating competition, the DSMUN secretariat organised the first ever intra-school MUN; another exclusively juniors event. The purpose of this MUN was to foster an understanding of the activity, which will enable junior forms to embark on a successful MUN stint. The MUN was a success, seeing over 40 participants which bore testimony to the phenomenal exposure this activity. Whilst all these activities took place, regular sports practices intensified. The hockey team prepared fervently for the UFH tournament, in

which our team finally emerged victorious. Meanwhile, other sporting squads such as cricket, badminton, basketball and shooting also practiced to hone their skills. . The cricket team played a friendly fixture against the Dehradun Police team, where in a closely contested fight, the team lost by a margin of a few runs. The basketball team played a series of matches in the Dehradun District Basketball Championship finally emerging as the Runners-Up of the Tournament.

The Schools social service branch organized a first ever fair where several schools participated and discussed social services initiatives, and explored ways to serve the under-privileged groups in society.

Although the activity week for a majority of the school community was an exhausting period of time, the new S-Form lazed around in their beds, either glued to their laptops or lost in thought. Grueling preparations for the examinations always result in such a remarkable exhibition

of lethargy. On the other hand, the cast and crew for the one act play, and all Inter-house dance troupes tirelessly worked through the night, producing and choreographing their much awaited performances.

Saturday breakfast had most students missing the presence of the Weekly, the conventional complement to their sumptuous meal. However, in an assembly for the release of the 2500 Issue of the Weekly was held; an issue specially designed to celebrate 83 spectacular years of service from the School publication!

Overall, the last week spent in school was a busy one, in which multiple activities, sports and fairs were conducted, across several fields. It was a brilliant way to start the year, and a particularly lucrative period to enjoy all the opportunities made available to us here. The vibe of a relaxed student body, which is odd given the amount of work accomplished in just five days, made for a different, if not pleasant, shade of School.



## How was activity week for you?

Jampacked and chaotic.

-Aarnav Sethy

Very engaging for most of the boys.

-Mr. Ambikesh Shukla

Fun but boring.

-Dhruv Gupta

A lot of interesting things packed into a week, yet it felt like a break.

-Mr. Philip Burrett

An unnecessary break.

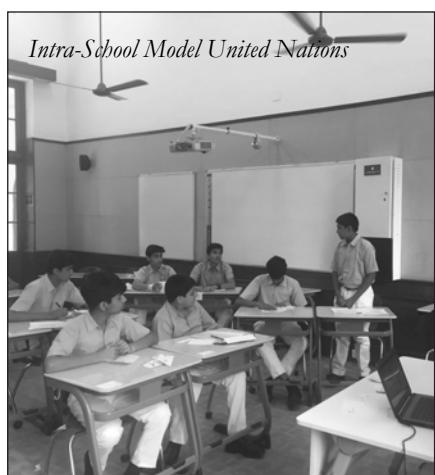
-Sidhant Shyam

A week which has huge scope for improvement.

-Yash Dewan



Drawn by Anant Ganapathy



# The Week Gone By

**Divyansh Nautiyal**

The Week began with the nail-biting final in the District Basketball Tournament where the School team went down after putting up a tough fight against their opponents. The Hockey Team also returned as finalists from the 'United for Hockey' Tournament where they performed spectacularly and improved their game substantially on turf as compared to last year. With the PT competition around the corner, Houses could be seen practising ambitiously day and night (literally), in order to win the

coveted cup. Very soon, 'army cuts' will not remain an uncommon sight in School. On the co-curricular front, Dance, Drama, Music and Debating descended upon the Houses with their respective Inter-house competitions being conducted in a tightly packed schedule in the coming days of the term.

Monday morning Assembly finally saw the whole School together. It also marked the beginning of the new academic session for the upcoming year. The AT formers (now S formers) returned from a short break and the D formers also experienced their first Assembly. We wish them the best of luck for their first year in School. With the Terry Fox being conducted tomorrow, we wish that the inspiring talk would

truly do a miracle and pull us out of our beds to run and raise awareness for a cause. Alongside on the field, with the players beating (or being beaten by) the scorching heat and refining their skills, the Hockey season is now running in full swing

The eyes of the S formers also twinkled with excitement as they received their laptops and chose the subjects of their choice. Some heaved a sigh of relief as they (finally) broke free from the clutches of Math while some others still plan to tread on the same path. The S form could also be seen gearing up for the forthcoming year as they diligently took on their responsibilities with a higher sense of authority and anticipation. So, as a previous editor once said, "Let the games now begin."

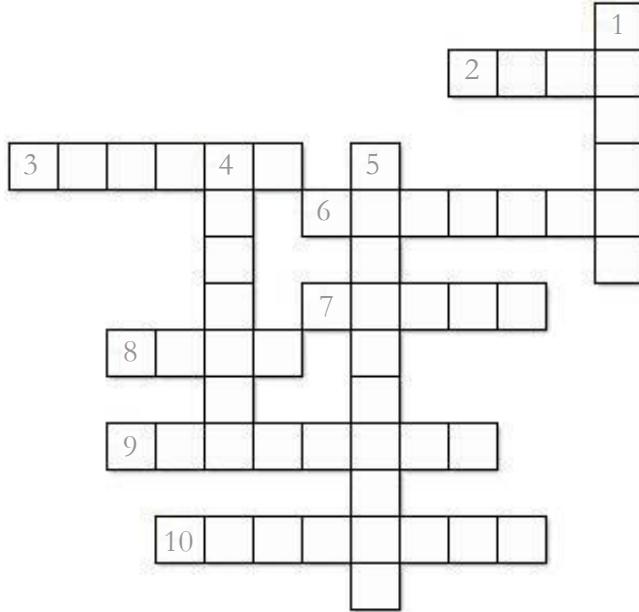
## Crossword | Acquisitions

### Across

2. This India-based car brand owns Jaguar and Land Rover.
3. This e-commerce giant acquired Internet Movie Database(Imdb) in 2011.
6. One of the most popular websites in itself, this video-sharing company was acquired by Google, which has been able to link it to its own services.
7. Invented in Estonia, this was one of the first video call communication softwares to be popularized and was acquired by Microsoft.
8. This computer company is well-known for the acquisition of Alienware, a gaming-laptop company, and data-storage giant EMC.
9. The most popular messaging freeware today, this company was bought by Facebook for \$22 billion in 2014.
10. This professional networking website was purchased by Microsoft for \$26.2 billion in 2016.

### Down

1. This entertainment company was acquired by Disney and has an entire cinematic universe to its name.
4. Coca-Cola poured \$181 million into a deal to purchase this California juice maker, which had cultivated an image as a healthier alternative to soft drinks.
5. This company owns luxury car companies like Porsche, Lamborghini, Audi and Bentley.



Note: All answers to this crossword are the concerned persons' surnames.

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
Across	7. Skype
2. Tata	8. Dell
3. Amazon	9. WhatsApp
4. Marvel	5. Volkswagen
6. YouTube	10. LinkedIn
7. Skyscanner	
Down	
1. Marvele	
2. Tatra	
3. Amazon	
4. Dell	
5. Volkswagen	
6. YouTube	
7. Skyscanner	
8. LinkedIn	
9. WhatsApp	
10. YouTube	

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

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