

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
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The Foods of Olde

Armaan Verma explores the humor in the food formerly served in the CDH.

Disclaimer: This is a work of hyperbolic fiction. All resemblance to any individual or organization—particularly any organization — is coincidental.

Gather around, young'uns, for it is time that you were told the true origins of the foodstuff that adorns your plates. Indeed, the Great Hall of Central Dining is far removed from what it once was. Those were days when the taste of ice tea had not yet reached our palates. The Great Hall is now witness to a cornucopia of bearable grub, under the Order of the Nutritionists that has brought to heel the savage morsels that once plagued the tables of boys and masters alike. It is a different animal now, tamed and predictable in its offerings. In the days of yore, it was infamously the place where dreams and appetites went to die, where a thousand undiscovered stomach conditions were birthed and where the true resolve of the hungry patrons was tested.

First, however, we must be careful not to ignore the time that preceded ours. Following our introduction to the Great Hall and its abominations, many a tale did we hear of the mythical 'bulletproof rotis' that made up the brick and mortar of ancient, forgotten fortresses. Fortunately, such evil had disappeared when we joined ranks. The smell of real noodles, however, had been forgotten long

ago. Nutella had only just been conceived as we entered the Great Hall for the first time. Only the heavens know what people used as spread before that. Nevertheless, the *rajma* that chipped teeth and the satanic bread disguised as toast remained; the Great Hall of Central Dining was still a force to be reckoned with.

The placement of the preposterously pleasant *paneer*, perfectly posited as providential, was particularly premeditated. Served in infinitesimal amounts, it left every vegetarian among us a Cassius lean enough to disquiet Caesar's mind. Meanwhile, the rest of us sustained ourselves on infinite chicken and fish chicken. Foremost among the scourge of our youth was the paneer that cloaked its foulness in the macaroni, though I am told of late that it has resurfaced to defile the mouths of patrons once again.

But mark! In the cruel bleakness of November, when the gods saw fit to thrust into our paths a real challenge, there rose from the murky depths of the kitchen a single casserole, a single stack of *rotis* that resembled its bulletproof ancestors of antiquity. The casserole knew that it was not alone in the onslaught, accompanied by the Charge of the Light Biryani, so it was between the devil and the deep blue sea for us. Those were dinners few among us will ever

forget.

Aye, those were dark days indeed. Now you children have nutrients being measured by the molecule, each *roti* warm on your palates and each bowl of butter unfrozen in the winter. You did not see the havoc wrought by the heathen foods of old. But amidst the endlessly chewy *rasagullas*, the little gravy we found in the oil, and the roast chicken from hell, we were bound together by a sense of impending doom at the end of each meal. A sense that what we ate would be as raw when it came out as when it went in. Aye, it was a time to remember. A time when Maggi was still contraband and when taste buds died valiantly. A time when heroes were born on the dining table and not in the pantry.



TOP OF THE TABLE

The School participated in the **1st Woodstock School Invitational Table Tennis Championship** held at **Woodstock School, Mussoorie** on September 29, 2018.

The **Under-19 team**, comprising Anuman Goel, Harshvardhan Agarwal and Shivank Dhall, won the **gold medal**.

The **Under-17 team**, comprising Aryan Kasera, Sanyam Gupta and Raghav Misra, won the **Silver Medal**.

The **Under-15 team**, comprising Raghav Sharma, Aryav Agarwal and Arnav Malhotra, won the **gold medal**.

Kudos!

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

I have more brain than you.

Varen Talwar, evidently.

Looking back in hindsight.

Bhai Kabir Singh, introspecting.

Mark Zuckerberg composed Pirates of the Carribean.

Raghav Kediya, in a fantasy world.

MUSICIAN IN THE MAKING

The School participated in the **Ramamurthi Memorial Performing Arts Competition** held at **Hopetown Girls School** on September 27, 2018.

In the **Solo Piano Category** Tarun Doss won the **first prize**.

Well done!

“

Life without liberty is like a body without spirit.

Khalil Gibran

HOT BALL

The School participated in the **IPSC Squash Tournament** held at **RIMC, Dehradun** from September 15 to September 20, 2018.

In the **Under-17 team Category** the School team reached the **Semi-Finals**. Krishay Sutodia was selected for the **SGFI National Games**, while Raghav Goyal was given a **Special Recommendation** for the **SGFI National Games**.

Well done!

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

A team comprising Sanjum Dhaliwal, Mehtab Bal and Shreyash Banka represented **Dehradun** in the **Uttarakhand State Youth Basketball Championship** held at **Behl, Haridwar** from September 21 to September 23, 2018. The team **won** the championship.

Sanjum Dhaliwal and Mehtab Bal were also selected to represent **Uttarakhand** in the **35th Youth National Basketball Championship**.

Congratulations!

Around the World in 80 Words

The Nobel Prize for Chemistry was awarded to Frances Arnold for ‘the directed evolution of enzymes’, and to George Smith and Sir Gregory Winter for ‘the phage display of peptides and antibodies’. Ranjan Gogoi was sworn in as the CJI. The New York Times accused Donald Trump of receiving \$413 million of black money from his father’s real estate empire. The International Court of Justice ordered the United States to lift sanctions on Iran that affect imports of humanitarian goods.



All the Best for Founder's!



UNDER THE SCANNER

Recent Supreme Court Rulings | Varen Talwar

The Indian Supreme Court is the apex court of our nation. It therefore has the authority of 'constitutional review' and is the 'final court of appeal' in the country. Recently, there have been many judgements made by the court which have a massive impact on Indian citizens. These include changes to the Constitution like the partial decriminalisation of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which permits consensual homosexual relations. Other prominent reviews were the 'Right to Privacy' as a Fundamental Right of the citizens; the declaration of Triple Talaq as unconstitutional; and its recent approval of the 2016 Aadhaar Act.

With such major changes, there seems to be a surge in the use of judicial review by the Supreme Court. Judicial review is the power of the court to declare any laws as unconstitutional, and to examine the constitutional validity of laws made by the Parliament. The practice of judicial review is visible in the declaration of Triple Talaq as unconstitutional, and the recent Aadhaar verdict, where the SC ruled that the Aadhaar card can be mandatory only to avail government services. This latter ruling can be particularly helpful in understanding the power of judicial review.

There has been much controversy about the Aadhaar verdict. It was widely referred to as a tactic employed by the government to pass a 'Money Bill' and hence circumventing the scrutiny of the Rajya Sabha. A money bill is a bill which focuses on taxation or government expenditure only. Thus a debate has been fuelled by the dissenting opinions of Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, a part of the

five judge bench which gave the Aadhaar verdict. The verdict was passed with a 4:1 majority.

However, it is important to understand that the Aadhaar verdict does not fully approve of the 2016 Aadhaar verdict. There have been many changes made to it by the judges. These include denying private firms and certain authorized officials access to personal information linked to the Aadhaar. The bench was also of the opinion that mobile phone numbers and bank accounts are not necessary information in the Aadhaar, and the data can be held for only six months instead of the five years the 2016 Aadhaar Act had mandated. The ruling approved of the fact that the Aadhaar is reliably unique due to biometric data and also stated that it did not harm privacy due to the minimalistic requirements.

Justice Chandrachud, being so vocal about his disapproval, has only proven that the verdict has highlighted the power of the judicial review. In many ways, this is greatly helpful for the citizens' welfare, since it can be argued that the discussion in the Parliament

would probably have been politically motivated rather than in the best interest of the public.

However, meddling with the Parliament's job can also be seen as an act of interfering with the functioning of democracy. It can be argued that such increasing levels of judicial review and activism can end up suppressing the role of the main legislative body of the country.

But maybe this issue has not reached such a great extent that it is a formidable threat to democracy. For example, there has been another ruling by the SC which disqualifies politicians with criminal charges to contest elections. In this case, the apex court left the decision to the Parliament, thus not exercising the power of judicial review.

Maybe this is because the SC wants to confine the use of this power only to where it is absolutely necessary, like it was in the Aadhaar case, where the welfare of the citizens was threatened. Whatever it is, considering the increasing activity of the SC recently, I think it will be safe to say that the judiciary is now has a greater influence on national affairs. However, it is difficult to conclude if this threatens Indian democracy or emboldens it.



Finishing with Finesse

Keshav Raj Singhal reports on the recently concluded Inter-House Football competition.

On 28th August 2018, amidst torrential rains and daunting thunder, Houses, sporting their coloured jerseys, gathered to compete with each other for the Shield. For some, this was the last opportunity they would get to fulfil their dreams of clinching the Grand Slam; for others this was an ideal platform to change the misfortune of their past performances. Even though the members of the School Football Team were experiencing an extremely taxing season, they did not fail to display their sporting prowess. The performances reflected immense talent and skill in the sports community on the field.

The Inter-House itself started on an unexpected note as Oberoi stunned Tata in the very first game. Contrary to the predictions of many, this certainly was an emphatic entrance into the tournament for Oberoi. However, the Swan's flight was soon put to an end when, in a clash against the Eagles, they lost 6-0. Jaipur was bolstered by the services of the experienced School Football Captain, who finally put an end to the prolonged 'curse' this year. While the Eagles were marching towards glory, the Nizams seemed to have given up on their furtive hopes of winning the Grand Slam after kicking off on an ominous note. Their performance this year did not live up to the expectations. In a stunner, they succumbed to the previously known 'Underdogs' by a score of 2-0, failing to get a successful shot on target. Even more surprising was that although the Nizams failed to get past any other house in the competition, they renewed their old rivalry with the Eagles, which also stopped the Eagle's conquest of a clean sweep in the Seniors competition. Thus, the dream of scoring a perfect 48 couldn't be achieved by the Eagles.

This year's Inter-House Football tournament also saw a constant turn of tables, as all houses except Jaipur failed to maintain their lead. The 'Underdogs', as Kashmir was previously known, changed the course of their unsuccessful performance in the past and gave stiff competition to Jaipur in their quest for the House cup. The same Kashmir, however, found itself embarrassed by an unforeseen twist in the game against Tata, where the former faced a drubbing by a score of 4-2, even after dominating the game till the end of the first half, when they were leading by a score of 2-1.

Enough opportunities were given not only to individuals but also the Houses in their entirety. Players who weren't members of the School Football Team got a golden chance to display their skill with the ball.



The Seniors competition witnessed promising performances by Shiv Sharma, Manan Agarwal, Udbhav Tomar, Kushagra Bhanu and Rahul Singh. In addition to the House Football captains, these players who also happen to be members of the School Football Team and contributed to the success that their Houses tasted.

The Juniors competition, on the other hand, proved to be a successful journey for the Nizams, who retained their cup after narrowly beating Kashmir by 1 point. The Junior tournament was majorly dominated by these two parties, who battled relentlessly to clinch the cup. Emerging talents were seen in the form of Nairit Patnaik, Mayank Agarwal, Iman Chatterjee, Sujoy Kapoor, Tarun Bhide and Aryan Agarwal, who greatly enhanced the level of competition witnessed this year. The Juniors competition, home to young talent, experienced some crucial moments that altered the fate of their positions. For instance, Kashmir won against Jaipur by scoring in the last two minutes while Hyderabad defeated Tata 2-0 in Juniors Two that sealed the victory for the Nizams.

One memorable moment of the Inter-House Football Competition this year was the beautifully placed shot by Aryaman Khosla that found the back of the net against Kashmir that won Jaipur the cup. Another was the penalty that Jaipur missed against Hyderabad that was reminiscent of the experience last year, when the Eagles were a victim to a similar misfortune.

All in all, this year's Inter-House Football competition won by Jaipur was a manifestation of the impressive standard in our school. All we hope is that the same standards prevail, and grow in the future.

Reality

Bhai Kabir Singh

The soothing touch of cold winds grace the passing night. You're standing on the edge of a rooftop, a spectator to the traffic below. The cars are running, attempting the impossibility that is punctuality. The reek of trash hangs under your nose, shrouding the moon in a murky film. The monotony of your life bores you just at the thought of it. The clouds are grey and the city lights are reminder of what happiness was.

"What does death feel like?", you wonder.

"Does it hurt? I guess you can never really know, at least not while you're alive. Do you really want to know?"

"Maybe you already do."

You're in a car with your sister behind the wheel.

"Where are we going?", you ask.

"Home"

Home? But home is the other way, isn't it? You didn't ask her; you know she hated it when you asked too many questions.

The car pulled up in the driveway of a large Victorian house. There was a small garden, with a swing in the corner. There was something familiar about the smell of the house. Your sister takes the key, turns it and pushes the door open. You watch as the ancient hinges yield to movement. Carefully at the reluctant movement of the hinges.

A shadow moves in the corner of your eye. Fear slowly creeps in, petrifying at the thought that someone is following you. But end up shrugging it aside; most probably it's one of your delusions.

You observe the foreign space of the living room around you. The creases on the arm chair, the color of the walls, the oddly familiar board game which rested on the wooden ledge.

"Here, have this," your sister says, holding out my pills.

You stared down at the daily dose of sanity. "Who cares if I am 'sick'? I hate those pills!", you scream, hurling the box to the corner of the room, hitting your sister along the way.

You feel someone's eyes on your neck, tingling, spreading that onslaught of fear on your body. You turn around to see electric blue eyes examining you with an insatiable hunger.

'Breathe and calm down', you tell yourself. 'Breathe and calm down.'

"Ouch! You idiot, come back here!!"

Ignoring your sister, you run up the stairs, two steps at a time. Is it another one of your delusions? It was so real, it can't be! You run into the first room you see and jump under the bed.

From under the bed you spot a picture. You slowly crawl out from under the bed, stand up and take a better look at it. You see a younger you, staring back from the happy portrait.

You remember.

This is your home, isn't it? This is where Mum and Dad were killed. Even 'blue eyes' was here. You could have saved mom and dad, couldn't you? But you didn't.

~

You're back on the skyscraper, quaking with guilt. You can't bear to know that you were there that day, and you chose not to do anything. You can't take it that your 'sickness' took away your ability to distinguish delusion and reality. For on that day, you thought the blood pooling outside your door was madness, not reality. You failed to realize both are the same.

Exhausted

Aryaman Kakkar

There are sewing needles in my brain and jackhammers quaking my bones. My eyes are crescent moons who can't get enough of shadows. Of spots dancing across my irises as I try to tumble into a peace that will never come. My spine berates me for mattresses, whether soft or hard I don't know. But the sea that shines against my skin and the sickness that consumes my essence taunt me. They laugh and scream with joy and I fold. I'm newly turned twenty one for these card dealers. They wreck me with every move, every word, every bite. Security comes up and decides all of this isn't for me. They sit me down and I liquefy. I am no longer.

I am begging for release. Free me! I can't take this any longer. You have driven out my passion, my love for everything! You have stolen my music, my words. You shout and command, expect so much from me. To conform and to listen, to be everything I don't want to. You have destroyed me. I am still here, and you have devastated me. Made a monument of scars and demented thoughts set in titanium. Encrusted in dying stars and shattered sapphires. A heart of molten sludge.

You created me. Out of my chaos, of my love you have created this. An unfeeling thing. A demonic angel. I pity Lucifer for he dared to be more. He tried to be and I was born; a product of fear and jealousy. All because you did not understand why I cried and why my tears blotted inked papers. You did nothing and that was it. I was everything in your eyes and you couldn't stand that. You couldn't bear to see and feel the way I did.

So I will. You changed me but I'm here. I am everything you are and the same as I was before. I know you and I will carve idols out of your ashes. Because in the end that's all you are; a charred, chthonic forest that was razed to the ground. That's all you will ever be.

That's everything I refuse to be.

The Week Gone By

Aryan Bhattacharjee

If one were to walk towards Chakrata Gate, a large alien structure would be seen rising in Skinners and continually reminding us: 'Founders is here'. On a slight detour into the *bajri* path leading to Jaipur House, one would also notice a dozen eager juniors peering into their scripts, noisily rehearsing dialogues. The flux of boys scurrying back and forth at night induces vibrancy which is so characteristic of this time of the year. For the penultimate form, this is perhaps the last big chance to prove their worth in the hopes of

leading the School next year. The various pre-Founders, undoubtedly, are anticipated by the community.

As the posts on the main field were taken down, Doscocs brace themselves a whirlwind of Inter-House sports competitions that will follow in the coming weeks; racquets, earlier hidden far below a stack of shin-guards and studs, are now sought after and ready for use.

If it were possible to pierce through the noise and commotion, one would notice that a certain segment of the community is still hung-over trials. The new system used to predict grades has caused the SC-Form, fresh from a viral fever epidemic, much dismay, even squashed some aspirations. The tussles between boys and the masters to 'moderate' predicted

grades have, thus, considerably intensified this year. The SC Form's gradual retreat from Chandbagh into the world beyond has begun. Certainly, it is extremely painful both for those who prepare to step foot into the real world, and also for those who watch helplessly as another chapter in the School's memory comes to a close. As SC-Formers bury themselves in college applications, many in S-Form get their first taste of standardised testing as they attempt the SAT today.

With another week remaining for us to break, all that remains is for the gates to be opened and for a flood of guests to fill Chandbagh with festivity and celebration!

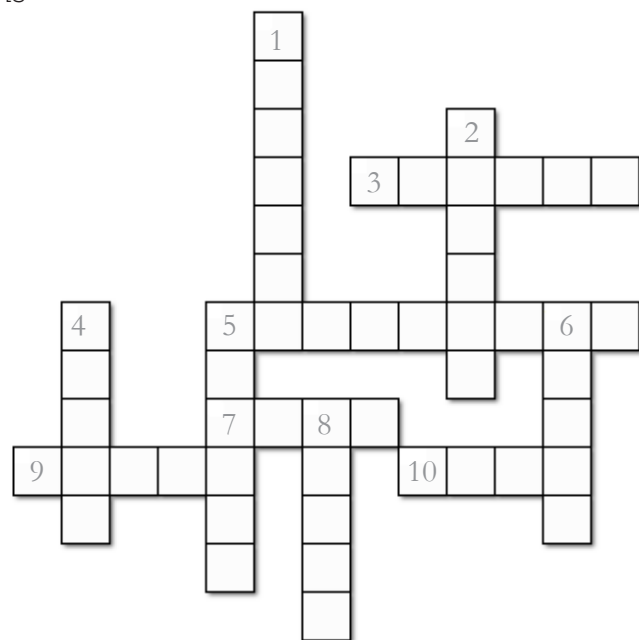
Crossword | Famous Comedians

Across

3. Kapil _____ is an Indian comedian and television actor. He has been ranked 'the most famous Indian TV personality'.
5. Dave _____ began performing comedies in nightclubs at the age of fourteen, after which he emerged as a major young talent in New York.
7. Chris _____ is a stand-up comedian who has spent three years on the cast of 'Saturday Night Live'.
9. This American comedian, nicknamed 'the King of Comedy', became famous in 1963 with the comedy 'The Nutty Professor'.
10. This comedian played the iconic role of 'Bert' in 'Mary Poppins', and had a running career in the entertainment industry for over seven decades.

Down

1. She made history as the first black female stand-up comedian to ever host 'Saturday Night Live'.
2. Jim _____ is a famous Hollywood actor, who has starred in comedy films such as 'The Mask', 'and Bruce Almighty'.
4. Buddy _____ was a dancer and a comedian, but he is most remembered for playing Jed Clampett in 'The Beverly Hillbillies'.
5. Johnny _____ hosted 'The Tonight Show' for almost 30 years, before he handed it to Jay Leno in 1992.
6. This comedian is also a Bollywood actor and has won two Filmfare awards for 'Best Performance in a Comic Role'. He is popular for his role of 'Pappi Bhai' in 'Golmaal Again'.
8. Famous for 'The Cosby Show', this stand-up comedian was an actor, musician and author.



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

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
1. Haddish	5. Carson
2. Carey	6. Lever
3. Sharna	9. Lewis
4. Ebsen	8. Cosby
5. Chappelle	10. Dyke
6. Rock	7. Rock

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

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