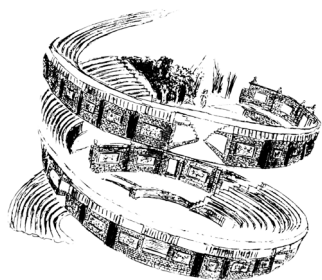


Established in 1936



The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
May 18, 2019 | Issue No. 2538



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Au Revoir!

The Weekly bids farewell to **Ms. Ritu Mohan**. On this occasion, her friends, students, and colleagues share their thoughts on her tenure.

Despite being my tutor only for a year, RBM Ma'am has guided me through thick and thin. I still remember all the *Kathi* treats at her home, gossip at the breakfast table, her road rage during day outs, watching French movies during toye, and most of all, how we all cried during her last house feast. Whenever I needed advice, her name was the first that popped into my head, without any doubt. To me, she was one of the few people in School who came close to being a motherly figure for me. Even though she had no knowledge about hockey or any other sport for that matter, she still motivated our whole form in anything and everything that we did, and we owe her a huge chunk of our success. Thank you RBM Ma'am for everything that you have done!

-Shreyan Mittal



Dear Ritu Ma'am,

You will always be in the back of my mind, wrapped around countless memories. There will not be a day where I won't catch myself day dreaming about the times we spent together. I am grateful that we have many ways to communicate, but I know it won't be the same as seeing you in person. These parting moments remind me that, when the sun says goodbye to earth, it leaves a beautiful sunset as a gift. When friends say goodbye to each other, they leave mementos of everlasting and priceless memories. Goodbye, my friend! I'm rather sad as I write this, knowing how you will soon be leaving for Dubai. I cannot believe it has been almost two years of our friendship. I'll surely miss all the times I spent with you, and the fun we had- we had such fun! Remember the dinner outings, gurudwara visits, shopping and movies together, the walks in and around Chandbagh. What I am trying to say is that being friends with you has impacted my life for the better. We have been through ups and downs, but being your friend has been something amazing. I'll miss you!

-KLK

I treasure Ritu for her personality. Ritu has no facades. She is what she is. Even though I did not always agree with her manner, I have quite admired the way she fearlessly says it like it is. Rather quite of late, I know her to have a great sense of humour and through my many idiosyncratic moments, that she's a good sport! During our chats over many cups of *chai* provided by me, I enjoyed her ideas... I always learnt from her. I have known her to be an extremely generous person, and sensitive too in her own way. I remember the time of a significant function. I was in no mood to dress up. She came to me with a most exquisite and expensive sari, and insisted that I wore it. I did, but more than that I wore in my heart the affection and concern Ritu showed me. I won't lie, I hurt to see her go.

-PRC

Whenever I think of RBM Ma'am, the first thing that comes to my mind is her generosity and kindness.

(Continued on Page 3)

SMASHING SUCCESS

The School participated in the **U-19 category** of the **Council's District Table Tennis Individual Championship**, held at **St. George's College, Mussoorie**. Sanyam Gautam reached the **semi-finals** while Aryan Kasera **won** the tournament.

Well played!

MASTERS OF MELODY

The School participated in the **Conoscenza Cultural Fest** organised by **Ecole Globale International Girls School** on 11th May, 2019. The School Band secured **first position** in the Band category.

Well done!

BUDDING TALENT

A delegation of 12 students represented the School at **SNAMUN** held at **Lawrence School, Sanawar** from the 5th to the 7th of May. **Special Mentions** were given to Nishiketh Gupta, Bhavtegh Gill, Aryan Kasera and Inderveer Oberoi, while Nand Singh Dahiya and Anay Krishnan were adjudged the **Most Outstanding Delegates**. Keshav Singhal was recognised as the **Best Delegate** and also won the award for the **Best Position Paper**. Rubin Rastogi also won the awarded for **Best Memorial**. Overall, the delegation was adjudged **Runners Up** for the Best Delegation award.

Congratulations!

“

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.

—
Abraham Lincoln

BLAZING BLUE

The following boys have been awarded the **Games Blazer**:

Manan Agarwal
Nandil Sarma
Shiv Sharma

Kudos!

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

Don't mess ups my brain.

Amish Singhal, too late.

I am agree with you.

DKY, let's agree to disagree.

Push it gently, but hardly.

Ribhav Bansal, stuck in between.

My old school has an underwater swimming pool.

Maharshi Roy, drowning...

Laptop will not on!

CSG, switched off.

What did she tells him?

Adit Chatterjee, gossip girl.

You can't say me!

Siddhant Agarwal, lost for words.

Around the World in 80 Words

The Sri Lankan government ordered a nationwide curfew due to violent anti-Muslim protests. With risen tensions, the USA ordered all non-emergency staff to leave Iraq immediately. The state of Alabama passed a bill banning abortion, even in cases of sexual harassment. US blacklisted Huawei from selling telecom gear. Saudi Arabia shut down major oil pipelines after a drone attack by Yemen rebels. Mumbai Indians won the Indian Premier League by beating Chennai Super Kings by 1 run in the finals.

Dosco Doodle

House Feast Hangover

Anant Ganapathy



(Continued from Page 1)

Not only is her larder always open to the boys no matter what the time of the day it be, but she is one of those masters who you can visit anytime with any problem without any hesitation. I am thankful to Ma'am for always putting her faith in me and motivating me with all my pursuits.

Merci beaucoup Madame pour t'amour et ta compassion.

À bientôt!

-Kanishkh Kanodia

The Geek Peak

Karan Sampath *comments on the effects of excessive fandom.*

Two days ago, the finale of the The Big Bang Theory, famous for being the biggest TV sitcom since Friends, aired. Two days from now, the finale of arguably the biggest television show on the planet: Game of Thrones, will air. By the end of this month, Avengers: Endgame will overtake Avatar to become the highest grossing film ever. We stand at a unique moment in pop culture history, a period known as the 'geek peak'. Fanbases across the world of these shows are fervently invested and hungry in them, akin to most cults and religions. However, with any fervent devotion to an idea, comes the necessary backlash if that idea is questioned, and this backlash is not only something we must remain cognisant of, but one we must actively guard against.

The cult of appreciation and devotion around a large pop culture phenomenon like Avengers is neither unheard of nor wholly unique, but it is different in two ways. The first is the sheer number of people being part of it now, which symbolises its transformation from a niche 'hipster' ideal at the time of the Marvel Comics, to a normalised mainstream notion, where it is a must have staple for any child growing up. Secondly, the level of devotion present in fans is far deeper and entrenched, because it is now theoretically possible to occupy our entire life just talking about these shows. With there being hundreds of fan websites and ever-increasing news articles about it,

fans are exposed to these shows in a much deeper and more accessible manner, making it an investment they find it much harder to get out of. Moreover, the mediums through which we are exposed to such shows have increased- I can interact with Game of Thrones through its books, its behind-the-scenes documentaries, its parodies online, its video games, its songs, its memorabilia, all apart from seeing the show itself. This excess of choice has meant that *bhaktis* of these shows, instead occasionally gracing our TV screens, are now our friends and closest ones. They chat about these shows, they read about them, they rewatch them in their free time, and they dream about them in the night.

Not watching the episode must be a legitimate choice, and it cannot be overridden by overzealous devotees of Westeros.

At this point, you may ask what is the effect of this, after all, most of us have liked a movie or TV show at some point or the other. However, there are particular issues with an entrenched obsession with such a fantastical idea, particularly when a large number of individuals share it. This obsession can become an identity, something which

individuals proudly uphold, from announcing themselves as "die-hard GOT fans" to attending distant Comic-Con conferences. Fundamentally, this identity is religious in nature, because fans often see these characters as supernatural, as individuals they want to emulate, be it Arya or Tony Stark. As with any fervent faith, those who refuse to believe in it face social exclusion, because they do not share the most defining parts of their friends and family.

Particularly for younger children, who are still in the process of being introduced to mainstream religions and are relatively immature, social exclusion becomes problematic. Statements like "Why haven't you seen the episode?", not only exclude but also mock, cause a severe loss of confidence in who the child is as a person. Not watching the episode must be a legitimate choice, and it cannot be overridden by overzealous devotees of Westeros.

The rise of a new form of identity, not as a religious one first, but as a Marvel fan, has meant that the same problems of social exclusion and backlash have continued to exist. As a whole, we must remain cognisant of the fact that these shows exist for our enjoyment, and nothing more. Ultimately, we must guard against intruding on other's choices, to ensure that not everyone is forced to conform to the new norm, the new 'cool'. We may be at the geek peak, but we must not force it to become a plateau.

The Roving Eye

A report of the least-awkward SC form Socials.

Ch Ed and S Ed

The skies, over the past few weeks, have been fickle – scorching hot in the day and coolly thundering in the nights. However, one thing is for sure: it is spring, and love is in the air. Before we get on with anything else, however, the authors who venture out to write this piece have an apology to make: we, the Roving Eyes, have been quite quiet this term, having not reported on two of the glorious occasions we ‘awkward’ Doscos have had the chance to interact with young ladies our age.

This time however, the Roving Eyes have stepped up to the challenge, and present to you a report of our exploits - the happenings at our third socials at Dalanwala. An event that marred that hallowed day, an effective conversation starter (and ender) at the Socials later in the evening, as some of us would learn, was the SAT. In fact, it was almost as though that was a teaser of some kind of the grand socials to come, with one even missing his classes in hopes of striking up a conversation with a heart-throb, ending up eventually staring at his love through the Museum glass. Don’t lose heart, brave men; fortune favours the bold. The evening itself saw us, in a combination of sweat and cologne, hop on to the bus to the backdrop of STK’s rhythmic intonations of “Get on the Bus”. Journeying, however, wasn’t too much fun, all the fun and anticipation being reserved for the destination. On finally reaching, we were greeted with stares from teachers and the young ladies alike. We were led (much to our relief) into an air-conditioned room, where our intense cologne converged with a drowning smell of cosmetics. And now for the nitty-gritties...

We’ll choose here, not to take you directly through the events of that night, but in impressions, serving the essentials. Starting from the very top, O Captain, My Captain was visibly at the receiving end of some remarkably smooth and subtle moves by their school Radio; which he, we must add, deflected by making clear that he was ‘reserved’. Sitting close by, our very own Prima donna was seen poking his rather long nose into the affairs of one of our Editor as the latter found himself carrying forward his hard work and dedication across MCGSMUN with another editor.

On the topic of MCGS and editors, condolences must be extended to our ‘disillusioned’ Chief after he missed his aim for the ‘top’. Rumour has it that the bitter Chief, in his preparation for another attempt, has devised plans to stage a coup to earn himself a dancing opportunity. *Inquilab Zindabad?*

A pale-skinned duo was spotted oscillating past

all others, lost, evidently, for those few precious moments, in a world of their own, complete with cupid strumming on his *fiar* lyre. One other trio, too, came together on the upstroke of a strum, as the *GmmBassist*, having promised the Pianist that he’ll pull some strings, found he’d plucked the wrong notes (intentionally?), as his competition friend hung by a loose thread, close by. Not-so-far away, a Social Media behemoth was seen third-wheeling as two old “friends” rekindled past memories.

Friendship also saw its newest meaning emerge as the Birdman strolled around with an Oriole; the latter had reportedly strained her ties with Birdy’s old mate Nature. Another pair which reinforced this complication was BG and his buddy Sec Jain’s erstwhile; fortunately though, Sec Jain’s spring had already come in Ajmer.

A shout-out must also be given to all couples who continue to treasure their relationship. The power couple (who, dare we say, were recently robbed of some of their clout) sat in a corner, heading strong into their third year. On the other hand, the broken-armed boxer’s plaster came to some use, allowing his companion to etch her affection in indelible ink. A gentleman sportsman was also seen euphorically conversing with his other half, their rendezvous being the dance floor. With regard to dance, a brave warrior excitedly dashed with the chief Woodpecker to the ‘Jam room’ as soon as the announcement was made; the privacy must have been a welcome relief. If one recalls correctly, the shooter and the Shukla duo had never smiled so much as they did during their *tete-a-tete*. Let us hope that this magic never fades away.

Jam sessions are conventionally the most awkward time; this time, it was also the most memorable one. While two of our dancers set fire to the stage with their *Baraati* moves, yet another Editor appeared to be dancing with the whole of Welham’s 2020. Two performances in particular competed with each other to steal the spotlight. First, the young ladies put an elaborately-executed and electrifying performance of *Aakhya ka yo Kajal*; Doscos, stunned at first, soon followed suit. The undisputed highlight of the night, however, went to our master escort RDG alone. As she danced with effortless ease, both boys and girls were put to shame.

And so, the night ended. As we returned with broken hearts and *jugaad* mementos in the form of hand bands, all we could think of was “When will they happen next?”

Swaying in Spring

Aviral Kumar reports on the recently concluded Inter-House Dance Competition.

For the last few years, the Inter-House Dance Competition has been famous for consistently raising the bar in terms of the performances we see. This year was no different, as each House elevated their performances to an entirely new level.

The proceedings opened with Hyderabad House showcasing a touching depiction of a group of friends reminiscing about their days in School. Titled 'Nostalgia', the Nizams explored themes of youthful carelessness and the coming-of-age we undergo as we grow older. Despite the broad spectrum of emotions that nostalgia can bring with it, they were able to deliver a performance that captured both the uplifting energy of youth and the bittersweet feeling of growing older and having to say goodbye. Following Hyderabad, Oberoi House showed us "Lights, Camera, Action". Containing a wide assortment of songs pulled across multiple genres, ranging from Hindi dance anthem 'Aankh Marey' to the explosive and conclusive 'Burn Out' by Martin Garrix, the theme's focus was that it is the dance and the emotion behind it that ultimately matters, and it cannot be conformed to any specific topic. The performance utilised both a large portion of the stage and a multitude of dance styles, including some 'Fortnite' celebrations that were appreciated by the younger Doscocs.

Third on the list came Tata House. This year, the Warriors chose to go for an all-Hindi playlist to back

their heart-warming tribute to the Indian Army. 'The Nation's Heroes' was the sum of a wide variety of emotions conveyed across multiple songs – from the upbeat, rhythmic discipline of our soldiers in 'Lakshya' to the sacrifice and sorrow they face in 'Maanjha', the performance culminated in a breathtaking human pyramid with the nation's flag planted at its peak. A hard act to follow, Jaipur House mellowed things down and brought them closer to home through 'Heartbreak', a tear-jerking narrative of lost love. Utilising a neon-light show that truly proved to be a spectacle, the Eagles brought out the romantics in all of us. Finally, Kashmir House, in stark contrast to Jaipur, showed the darker side of love through 'Ek lakdi Ko Dekha To Aisa Laga', painting a dark, encapsulating and ultimately poetic picture of rejection and the self-destructive tendencies that can follow.

Once the dust settled, Tata house emerged victorious, but that takes nothing away from the incredible performances delivered by each house. A new feature was the compulsory Solo Segment, which gave an excellent platform for each houses' leading lights to shine, while the scale and level of grandeur each house showcased was at an unprecedented scale. All in all, this year's competition once again proved the level of quality our School dancers have, and only further served to increase the activity's prestige.

Mixed Reality

Mr. Piyush Malviya, School's Public Relations Head, responds to The Times of India's irresponsible journalism.

With regard to Aryaman Khosla's article 'What's in a name' (Issue no. 2534), having been closely involved in dealing with the press, it is perhaps important for me to apprise the community of School's stand on the matter. To begin with, we share a very cordial relation with local newspapers and they usually consult School before printing anything controversial. So it was not the local edition of the Times Of India that printed the misleading headlines. It must be noted that local news is sent to the central desk of the TOI in Delhi which, in turn, sends it out to 25 other city editions. It was in this transaction that the heading got distorted causing all the controversy. In the very first instance, the School immediately wrote a letter to the TOI and they promptly made amends in their online edition, while their senior resident editor also assured School that such an error would not recur. In addition, the TOI also issued an advisory to all its editions to not use the words 'Doon' and 'school' together. On March 28th, 2019, however, the Nagpur

edition of the TOI chose to do exactly the opposite. This time again, an errata was promptly issued without any prodding. But, once again the damage had been done, causing even more fury and uproar in the community. Demands to sue the TOI for defamation were the immediate outcry. Members of the community and the Board, which include a couple of eminent lawyers too, mulled over the matter and came to the conclusion that litigation would not be the way out. All that would be achieved at the end of a long drawn legal battle would be another perfunctory corrigendum or apology, already tendered. It would be a waste of time and resources. On the other hand, if the lawsuit did draw media attention, it would be negative publicity. So what, then, could be done? After all, there is a possibility that another newspaper makes a similar error in the future, too! Firstly, the community needs to be very vigilant and careful on social media so that whenever such news appears we can counter it immediately. Secondly, we should never

react bitterly or get entangled in a war of words as this would prove to be futile. Lastly, the TOI came out with an article recently stating that there are about twenty four schools in Dehradun with the word

'Doon' in their names. Being The Doon School, we have to take such blatant usurpations of our name in our stride!

The Term Gone By

Divyansh Nautiyal *maps the memorable events of this term.*

Another term comes to an end and with it ends an entire season of sports and activities. Not to forget, academics, of course. Having witnessed the most jam-packed and hectic term that I have witnessed in my last five years in School, please forgive me if I miss out on something. The term began with the much-anticipated appointments ranging from Prefectships to Captaincies to Councils Secretary posts, and brought the usual set of victories, surprises and disappointments along with it. Moving forward, Inter-House Cricket saw the Nizams claiming the House Cup with a golden 48/48 in the Seniors category. Not something one gets to see every year.

Paradoxically, the start of the year for many in School also means the end of the journey for some others. The School witnessed, experienced and lived through the farewell of the Batch of 2019 as DoscOs waved the one last goodbye to their closest friends in the form. Prize Giving was accompanied with the most outstanding achievements and recognitions for those who toiled silently behind the scenes. Fast forward ten days, and we see the Houses conduct their farewell feasts and shift gears to academic mode, working relentlessly for Trials. Unarguably, the highlight of the Trials was the S Form Math Paper which devilishly worked to shatter dreams of many. To quote one Math teacher – “You make a joke of Math and Math will make a joke out of you!” The first Inter-School event of JEDI for the year was also conducted in the midst of and despite the flurry of activities; eventually, our juniors emerged victorious.

The end of Trials paved the way for Mid-Terms, conducted after so much speculation and anticipation with respect to the weather conditions. Incidentally, these Mid-Terms also happen to be the first and last private Mid-Terms for SC form. The House of Warriors truly stood out as one of their parties scaled one of the highest peaks for this year's Mid-Terms while the others from the House continued their performance from last year. Following Mid-Terms, the term witnessed a whirlwind of events as Masters and Students travelled in and out of School to participate in various Inter-School competitions, ranging from Hockey to Debates and MUNs. Happily, our teams never failed to surprise us with every performance, bettering all previous records.

Our Hockey Team seized a golden season with two

Winners and two Runners Up trophies going straight to the School trophy cabinet, one of them being the prestigious S. Kandhari Memorial Tournament which the School won after thirteen years. Shifting from the fields to the courts, the Basketball team reached the finals of the Afzal Khan Tournament for the third year in a row. Although the School still awaits the year when we clinch the trophy, our team performed tremendously well; the nail-biting semi-final will especially be remembered by School for quite some time.

At the Inter-House level, School also witnessed a Hockey tournament where teams fought neck-to-neck to clinch the trophy while the Inter-House PT competition maintained the high standards of PT that School has displayed over the years. So, while the fate of PT in School looks bleak with talks of restructuring it, the activity did not fail to establish its popularity before it is replaced with a more '21st century' alternative.

On the Co-Curricular front, the House of Warriors clinched the trophies for Dance and Drama with stunning performances in both. The Swans too deserve a special mention for the fantastic dance performance they put up, holding the entire School in thrall. The band performances too saw equal anticipation and fervour as one band after the other put up awe-inspiring performances, marking the close of yet another bustling term.

With so much stuffed into a single term, naturally, School is considering a revamped calendar that is de-cluttered, prioritised and systematic because the next term (which spans four-and-a half months) will be no less busy.

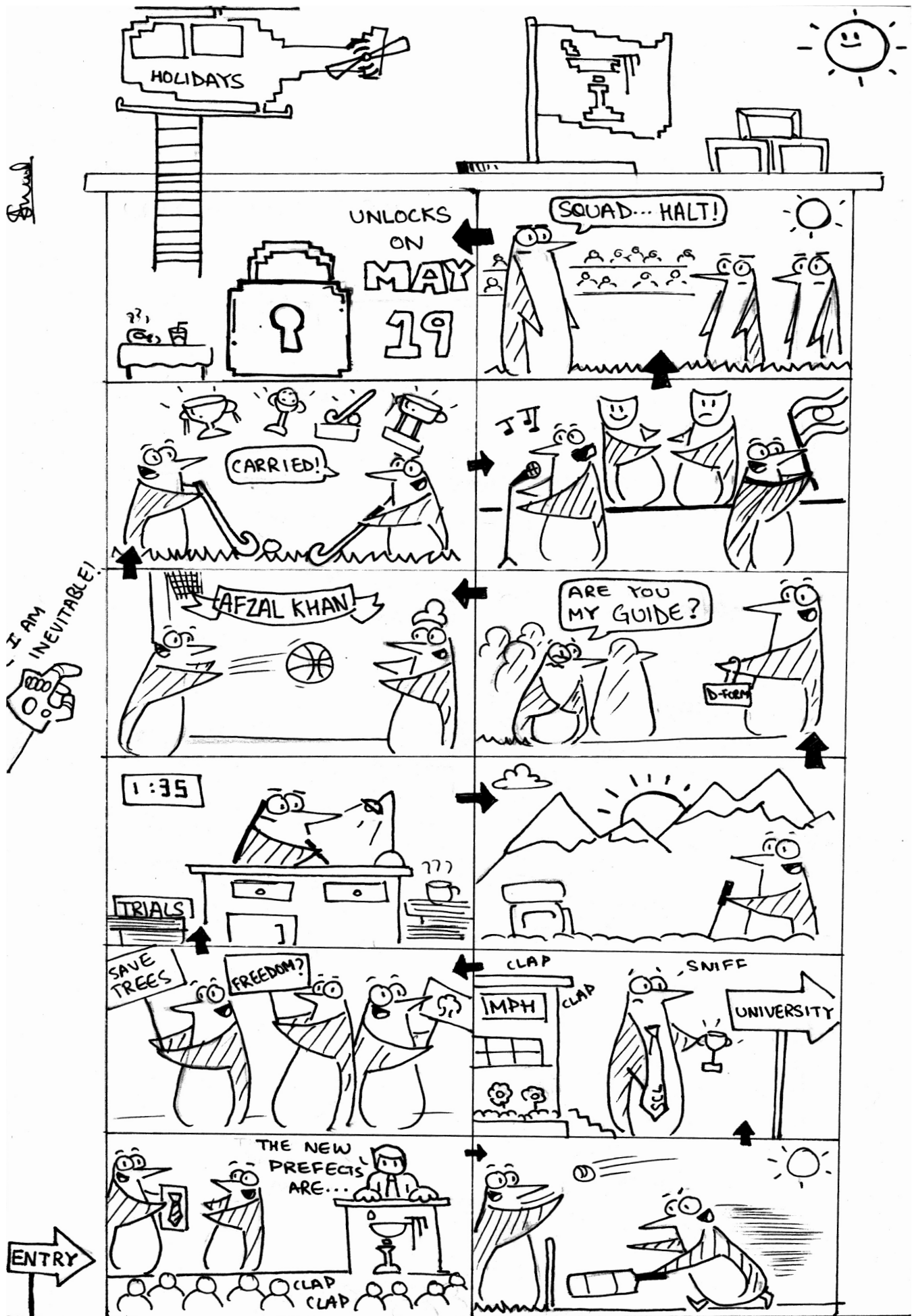
The good news is that despite such an action-packed term, DoscOs did not fail to find their love interests – be it at Socials, Izhaar-e-Hunar or at MCGS. We also did not fail to notice and rectify problems closer and dearer to home – our environment. With individuals working for this cause, the School eagerly awaits to see the results of this committee.

Finally, as you read this, you are probably looking forward to Special Assembly or the Golden Night but most definitely the summer break. To say the least, the community needs it now more than ever. With so much said and done, it is time for a much-deserved break. Happy Holidays and see you next term!

Doosco Doodle

A Week Too Late...

Saatvik Anand



Sports

Cricket World Cup, England
 Champions League final, Madrid
 Football Women's World Cup, France
 Wimbledon
 French Open
 NBA Playoffs

May 30 - July 15
 June 1
 June 7- July 7
 July 1 - July 14
 May 26 - June 9



MADRID 19
 FINAL



TV Shows

Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D Season 6 May 10
 The Hot Zone Season 1 May 27
 Designated Survivor Season 3 June 7
 Too Old To Die Young Stranger June 14
 Things Season 3 July 4

Books

The Nickle Boys Colson Whitehead
 The Testaments Margaret Atwood
 Evil: The Science Behind Humanity's Dark Side Julia Shaw
 Black Leopard, Red Wolf Marlon James
 The Silent Patient Alex Michaelides

Video Games

Far Cry New Dawn February 15
 Anthem February 22
 Tom Clancy's The Division 2 March 15
 Mortal Kombat 11 April 23
 Days Gone April 26
 Fortnite Season 9 May 9



Music

Father of Asahd DJ Khalid
 11:11 Maluma
 Tim Avicii
 Happiness Begins Jonas Brothers
 Madame X Madonna

Movies

Aladdin May 24
 Godzilla 2: Kind of the Monsters May 31
 Bharat June 5
 Dark Phoenix June 7
 Men in Black International June 14
 Spider Man: Far from Home July 5

MARVEL STUDIOS

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

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