

Eighteen students from School participated in an Art workshop held at Mayo College, Ajmer during the midterms.

Vishnukaant Pitty recounts the experience

Grand, imposing buildings; a lavish, sprawling campus dotted with the kikar trees of the desert region and to top it all, the rich Rajput heritage – this was Mayo College, Ajmer.

A group of sixteen boys and two girls, along with ATB and RMR, went on a goodwill art trip to Mayo College on April 3. We were to attend art workshops, both in Mayo College and in Mayo College Girls' School.

The first thing that struck us as we entered the Mayo campus was the imposing Main Building of the school. Inspired by Rajput architecture, with its elaborate domes and a clock tower right in its centre, the Main Building is the pride of Mayo College. As we went around the campus, found that, quite like at Doon, Mayo takes pride in its campus: all

We worked with materials and media that we had never even experimented with previously – sand-casting, balloon- designing and ornament-making, as well as the more usual clay modelling

of 300 spacious acres, and the grand architecture within it.

Their Art School has a magnificent museum along-side it, containing relics of the school, collected since its inception – the armoury of Rajput kings, typical Rajasthani costumes and other artefacts of the region. The art workshop was held in the Art School itself, where the Art masters of the school introduced us to the finer points of miniature painting. The *kalams* of the many schools of Rajputana (Kota, Bundi, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, to name a few) have many distinctive features: the use of symbols, foliage and animals in the background, the skilful arrangement of figures to ensure none is 'blocked' from view and the colours used on faces to give them greater depth. We marvelled at the genius of the miniaturist and, with some painstaking efforts of our own, by the end of the

day, each one of us had a piece of Rajasthani art in his/her hand to call our own. After we were done with the miniature paintings, we proceeded to T-shirt printing, where we designed a 'Dosco-Mayoite' T-shirt, which each one of us brought back as a memento.

Our next workshop was at Mayo College Girls' School. Although smaller in area than Mayo College, Mayo Girls' has an equally interesting campus.

This art workshop proved to be quite a challenge. We were told to work with materials and media that we had never even experimented with previously – sand-casting, balloon- designing, ornament-making, etc. All of us quickly got engrossed in the

project, which we discovered soon enough, was very tedious work indeed. All through the workshop, it was only Arun

Kothari who kept us from complete exhaustion with his frequent frolicking and it was owing to him that we ended up having a really good time.

The last day, marking the end of our trip, we visited the Ajmer Sharif *dargah* – a revered shrine of a Sufi saint, and also went to the Pushkar temple – said to be the only Brahma temple in the world, with palatial architecture to match.

Finally, we came back to school with memories of the trip fresh in our minds. Such an interaction and exposure adds to the wealth of experiences we are fortunate enough to gather during our six years at Doon. Our aesthetic sensibilities need nurturing and nourishing too. I think such workshops offer great learning opportunities, if conducted and participated in with the correct enthusiasm and commitment.

and commitment.

1. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, April 26

#### News-in-Brief

#### WELCOME

We welcome **Ashok Sabharwal**, who is on exchange from The Millenium School, Dubai. He will teach Hindi. We wish him a pleasant and fruitful stay.

### CRICKET RESULTS

The results of the **Inter-House Cricket Competition 2008** are as follows:

#### **Juniors:**

1st: Tata House 2nd: Oberoi House 3rd: Jaipur House 4th: Kashmir House 5th: Hyderabad House

#### **Seniors:**

**1st:** Oberoi House **2nd:** Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kashmir and Tata Houses

#### **House Cup:**

1st: Oberoi House 2nd: Tata House 3rd: Jaipur House 4th: Kashmir House 5th: Hyderabad House

## **HOCKEY**

In the **Council School Hockey Tournament**, The School hockey team played and beat the **Colonel Brown School** with a score of 3-1. The School then beat the **Raja Ram Mohan Roy Academy** with a score of 8-0. In the semifinals, they lost to the **Moravian Institute** 3-1. Well tried!

#### **BASKETBOYS**

In the **9th Win-Mumby Memorial Basketball Tournament** held at Woodstock School, the School team beat Modern School with a score of 57-42 in the quarter final round. In the semi-final round, the School beat Woodstock School with a score of 47-42. The School played Montfort School, Delhi, in the finals and emerged victorious with a score of 61-53. Congratulations!

In the **Afzal Khan Memorial Basketball Tournament**, the School basketball team played and beat **LKSEC**, **Gotan** with a score of 57-34 on Monday, April 21. The School team also beat **The Lawrence School**, **Sanawar** with a score of 55-34 on Tuesday, April 22. The School played against **DPS**, **Mathura Road** in the semi-final round on Wednesday, April 23, and won 72-65.

In the final round, the School played **Welham Boys' School** on Thursday, April 24, and lost 58-59. Rishabh Bir Singh was adjudged the **Most Valuable Player**. Well tried!

#### DEBATE UPDATE

In the second round of the **Inter-House English Debates**, Jaipur House beat Kashmir House and Hyderabad House beat Oberoi House. Mansher Dhillon and Vikramaditya Chaudhary were adjudged **Best Speakers** and Abhaas Shah and Vikrant Jain were adjudged **Second Best Speakers** in their respective debates.

The School was represented by Govind Singh and Akshat Khandelwal in the **Asian School Debate** held at the Asian School on Friday, April 18. The School was placed fourth overall.

Congratulations!

### **O**BITUARY

It is with regret that we inform the School community of the passing away of Anju Malwah *nee* Sharma (ex- 1 H '70) on April 20, 2008. She was SL Sharma's (ex-Housemaster, Hyderabad House) daughter and sister of KP Sharma (ex-273 K '58), Suresh Sharma (ex-245 K '65) and Sheel Sharma (ex-345 K '66). Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

## **Letter To The Editor**

I have been regularly reading the *Weekly*. It seems that the post of Hindi editor has been taken off the editorial board and also no Hindi pages have been published lately. I think we all have a certain responsibility towards our national language and should continuously promote it. I thought about writing this letter in Hindi; however, I remember from my days on the editorial board of the Weekly that it will not be easy to accommodate just one Hindi letter with other material on the last page. Also, with the absence of a Hindi editor, I was wondering who would type it in the good old 'Webdunia' software! I would appreciate it if the people concerned could look into the matter and the position of Hindi editor be brought back onto the editorial board.

(Deepansh Chaudhury, ex - 498 K '06)

## **Unquotable Quotes**

Kalra, you will be rebuttaling yaar.

Anindya Vasudev, gifted with convincing powers.

Is your pen-drive Transcendental?

Shoumitra Srivastava, tech-savvy.

My skin is allergic to dry skin.

Shatrunjai Dewan, hypochondriac.

Go, stand at the goalkeeper.

Kanav Mehra, the instructor.

K2 is the tallest peak in India.

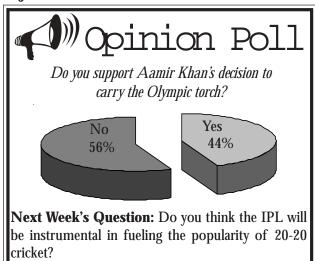
**Dinesh Reddy,** judging the height factor.

All babies wear a napper.

**Shreyvardhan Swaroop**, going back to infancy.

I have to swim forty-five times before entering the pool.

Raj Khosla, dedicated.



## CAREER CALL

The Careers' Notice Board will focus on **Anthropology** as a career option this week. All interested must look it up.



# The Midterm Scroll

Many of the midterm parties were not able to reach their destinations as the weather played havoc with their plans. However, this did not mean that the midterms were not adventurous. Most of the midterm parties actually had a great time, even though they had to endure the wrath of nature. The **Weekly** does a quick summary of a few memorable experiences from these midterms

The Kashmir House B form, travelling with NTC, was one of the parties, which was forced to stop because of heavy rain. They had planned to trek up to Dodital on the second day of their midterms. However, NTC predicted snowfall ahead and they had to set up camp midway in Agoda, while a private party from Tata House went on to reach Dodital. In spite of the fact that they were not able to go to areas where there was snow, they had to go on a trek that was very difficult as they had to contend with the steep terrain.

One exciting midterm would definitely be that of one of the private parties of Hyderabad House. Even though they were delayed because of a tyre puncture on the first day, their midterms seemed to be far more different from anything they'd ever experienced when they found refuge in an abandoned village. It is rather weird to come to an empty village halfway up a mountain, in the middle of a trek.

**The A form of Jaipur and Hyderabad Houses,** thirty boys, escorted by KPS, PGI, VRW and MNP set out for Auli, a hill-station. However, due to bad weather conditions, they were compelled to alter their plans and had to put up at a questhouse in Khirsoo, miles away from their destination. However, the change of plan turned out to be a pleasant experience. They attempted to trek over forty kilometres, but managed only thirty due to the rain. With weather conditions deteriorating day by day, they had to abandon their trek and resurt to exploring the scenic beauty nearby and interacting with the locals. In the end, it turned out to be a break from a stringent schedule(which is what escurted midterns can sanctimes turn aut to be). After all, a little change *is aluays udom*e

Snow, rain, mafia and the most beautiful sights you can ever see greeted the Oberoi House A formers on their way to Chopta. The trek to Dauriatal was exhausting, but nonetheless, the spectacular view of the lake made up for the strenuous trudging uphill. It did rain (and snow as well) on their parade at one point, which made the older members of the group turn back; but there are memories which will be cherished forever.

The Kashmir House A formers will definitely remember the bus journey on the way back to School. At half-past-twelve at night, they were the last to arrive on campus. Besides, they were one of the parties which had trouble with the weather and weren't able to reach Har-ki-doon, their intended destination.

A private party of five boys travelled to Ghuttu, Reeh and Gangi and met with a very adventurous midterm. They were forced to trek in non-stop rain and sleep on the verandah of a rest house. The cold night and the damaged stove did not help their cause as they had to do with a bonfire, which was not easy to light. Yet, these events added spice to their midterms. It was a totally different experience, testing their survival skills to the limits.

One of the A form parties of Hyderabad House were rather brave as they were one of the few who were able to complete their trek to Deobandh on time. Trekking in the snow made them actually experience an unusually cold spring and made them learn the value of a sweater!

The B and C formers of Jaipur House encountered treacherous roads, delays and harsh weather on their way onwards from Harsil, a remote destination, forcing them to stay in Naitala for two days. However, they did trek up to a small glacier, and even find comfortable accommodation. they were also taught fishing in the Bhagirathi by their cheerful escorts, leaving them with a host of happy memories.

# Are We Missing the Point Here?

Dhruv Velloor writes on how competitive parents today affect their overworked children

'I was born intelligent, but education ruined me' has become quite a famous quote among students today. Come to think of it, one could just as easily add the words 'life' and 'the idea of a good career' to that very quote.

It was just the other day when I chanced upon an article in the papers in which the writer says that today, we are losing sight of what is really important in life. Today, what practically everyone considers to be essential in order to live a happy life is this: get into preschool with flying colours in the entrance interview, then get above 90% in your Class 10 board examinations when in regular school. Next up, attain a place in every school team possible in the school, while at the same time not allowing your studies to suffer. Engage fiercely in co-curricular activities, and participate in a social service project. If possible, learn to play an instrument or read, just for the sake of developing a 'hobby' that stimulates the mind and enhances creativity. A score below 95% in the Class 12 boards is sheer sacrilege. Now sign up for coaching at an academy that is guaranteed to help you answer every objective-type question in the book. Get into an IIT. Finally, become an engineer or doctor, get a suitable wife and live life this way forever.

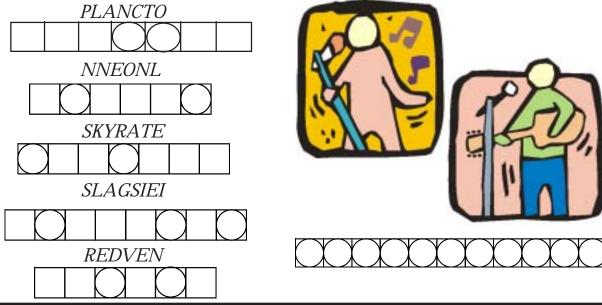
The point is that these days, parents have become overly ambitious and competitive. No stone is left unturned in the race to propel their child to be *numero uno* in the field the parents themselves have chosen for the child. Children no longer know what it feels like to be carefree and play all evening with friends. Instead, the faces of their tutors greet them when they return home from school, ready to dish out another helping of study. During their free time, they must constantly be immersed in their 'hobbies'. Everything is closely monitored, from how much they eat to when they sleep, to how well the child's friends are doing in school in relation to him. Friends no longer belong to the children, but to the parents who play politics with their counterparts to gain the upper hand.

In addition, child diversity is also made to perish. A budding artist is discouraged from his passion if it affects his grades. Children enjoying sports are also looked down upon for being 'dumb', for parents feel that there is no future for sport in life. The only viable careers are those that fetch a grand and steady income and are held in high regard by society, and the only decent children are those who can recite the entire periodic table and explain differential calculus and other such gibberish. It is almost as if everyone has forgotten that most of those that excelled in their fields were not academic achievers to begin with, and often had other qualities that set them apart from the herd.

So, here comes the big question: are we losing sight of what we need in life? Probably so. Is life only about getting rich and being admired? That's what many parents would like us to believe. Are we not allowed to have our own fun? Of course you can have your fun, just get into IIT first. For God's sake, let's please not let education, ambitious parents or differential calculus ruin who we really are inside.

# **JLBUME**

Unjumble the names of various singers and use the circled letters to form another word, which is another **singer**. Entries to be submitted in the **Weekly** box in the Main Building. The winner will be decided by lottery and will be treated to a **Hot Chocolate Fudge**.



Online Edition: http://www.doonschool.com/magazine

weekly@doonschool.com

IPSS<sup>©</sup> All rights reserved. **Printed by:** The English Book Depot, 15 Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun, Uttaranchal - 248009, India. **Published by:** Philip Burrett, The Doon School, Dehra Dun. **Editor-in-Chief:** Saurav Sethia **Editor:** Shaurya Kuthiala **Senior Editors:** Abhaas Shah, Mansher Dhillon **Asso**-

ciate Editors: KP Somaiah, Dhruv Velloor Special Correspondents: Shoumitra Srivastava, Chandrachuda Shukla, Vivek Santayana, Shashank Peshawaria Correspondents: Kanishka Malik Chief-of-Production: Vishnukaant Pitty Webmaster: Vishal Mohla Assistant Managers: Stuti Bathla, Priya Chaturvedi, Arvindanabha Shukla Spe-

cial Assistance: K.C.Maurya