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A(r)t Mayo

*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, we found that, quite like at Doon, Mayo takes pride in its campus: all of 300 spacious acres, and the grand architecture within it.

Their Art School has a magnificent museum alongside 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.



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

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.

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 semi-finals, 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!

OBITUARY

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.

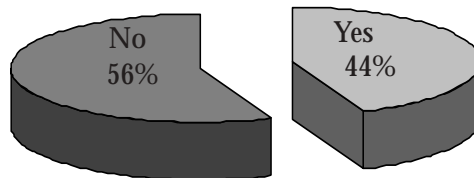
I have to swim forty-five times before entering the pool.

Raj Khosla, dedicated.



Opinion Poll

Do you support Aamir Khan's decision to carry the Olympic torch?



Next Week's Question: Do you think the IPL will be instrumental in fueling the popularity of 20-20 cricket?

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 half-way 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 guesthouse 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 resort 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 escorted midterms can sometimes turn out to be). After all, a little change is always welcome.

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.

