



Established in 1936

The Doon School

WEEKLY



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The Doon School Weekly wishes the community happy holidays!

SciencesPo

Revant Nayar reports on his experience at the SPEAC held at Le Havre, France, between April 26 – 30

After many days of anxiety caused by the Eyjafjallajökull volcanic ash and nail-biting last minute bookings, the four of us, Saib Ahmed, Jaiveer Jakhar, Vibhav Gaur and myself, escorted by PMV, boarded the flight for Paris on April 25, to participate in the Sciences Po Europe Asia Conference (SPEAC). We hardly knew what to expect from it; this was neither an MUN conference, nor a conventional debate like we had witnessed or participated in before. This was going to be something new, we knew. After an exhausting flight, we reached Paris. We were then accompanied by members of the Organizing Committee of the Conference to the port city of Le Havre, where the conference was to be held. On the first evening, we had a picturesque dinner by the docks, after which we gave in to exhaustion and collapsed onto our beds. At the Conference, there were around thirty-five students from schools from China, Singapore, South Korea and Europe, and we were the only Indian delegation present. The next day, there were the introductory speeches, followed by a brief talk on the Sciences Po University by the Director of the Sciences Po Le Havre campus. We were briefed on the structure of the event: every morning, there would be a 'conference', which was a presentation on the topic by a specialist in the relevant field, followed by a 'workshop', which would be a form of debate on the issue, and discussions followed by presentations.

The many conferences saw a number of pertinent issues, and they were structured differently each time. The first conference was regarding Turkey's membership in the European Union, the guest speaker being the Economic Counselor of the Turkish Embassy, Mme Lerzan Ulgenturk. Following this, we debated the motion *Turkey should be a part of the European Union at the expense of its cultural identity* in the British Parliamentary format as a part of the workshop. There was also a cross-questioning round, which was a twenty-minute version of the cross-examination in the inter-house debates. The second conference was on the topic *Climate change: can we save the world?* addressed by Jim Skea, representative of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), who was also an advisor to the British government. The workshop on this issue followed a more complex format of debating, in which we were divided into four teams – the developed, developing and underdeveloped nations and researchers – and we had to draft resolutions. The third conference was on the topic *Contemporary law in China*, addressed by Dr. Mike Dowdle, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Chinese Legal Stud-

(contd. overleaf)

Editorial

A Well-Deserved Rest

This oppressive heat is getting to us all. We are exhausted and dehydrated. Tempers are at an all-time high. But if there is one thing the weather cannot sap, it's our excitement and euphoria at the end of Trials and our imminent return home for the summer holidays. We need a break. We have had a long, stifling two weeks and a tedious, taxing four months. It has been a hard term, and we have done well on numerous accounts, after having worked ourselves to the bone. The School Cricket Team had a successful season, with an outstanding performance at Scindia School. The School participated in the Harvard Model United Nations Conference for the first time and did remarkably well. The School Hockey Team won the Council's Tournament after over twenty years. Our Afzal Khan Memorial Basketball Tournament was a success, and our School finished a respectable third. The Music Society has been very active, with frequent concerts given by the students. The School Choir even sang with the Capital City Minstrels. We have had a number of distinguished visitors such as Sir Richard Stagg, the British High Commissioner for India and Shyam Saran, former Foreign Secretary, who addressed the School on *Into-British relations and the value of knowledge as a resource*. Naseeruddin Shah and his troupe Motley put up a memorable performance of *Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot*. The Debating Society also had its fair share of successes. The Inter-House One-Act Plays all reflected hard work and thorough preparation. We held the first Inter-House Art Competition, as well as an inter-school festival. These are just a few scattered recollections of the term that I have, a term that has otherwise gone by faster than I would prefer.

I have lost track of time. I do not have any distinct memories of the last four months. It is a timeless blur, and I have to skim through pages of the School calendar or my poorly-maintained diary to recollect what happened, so hectic was it. We were all very busy, deeply involved with the many activities we were part of or responsible for, doing justice to the platinum jubilee year and the subsequent exhilaration. Perhaps this busyness was also a cause of great frustration, impetuosity and short temper, which perhaps reflected in stray incidents.

I confess that I, despite having spent five years in School, cannot identify the many birds or trees on campus. I realize that I would have left by strawberry season, next year, and I regret not having listened to the many lectures I had in my D form on the natural beauty of the Estate. It is a shame that, though I know the difference between a Petrarchan and a Shakespearean sonnet, I cannot distinguish a 'brain-fever' bird from a common cuckoo, or a citrus gum from a eucalyptus tree. The beauty of this campus has escaped me. It's a terrible shame, I admit. I wish I had slowed down and taken some time to smell the flowers. I guess I have time to do exactly so, now. The same goes for many of us.

TENNIS RESULTS

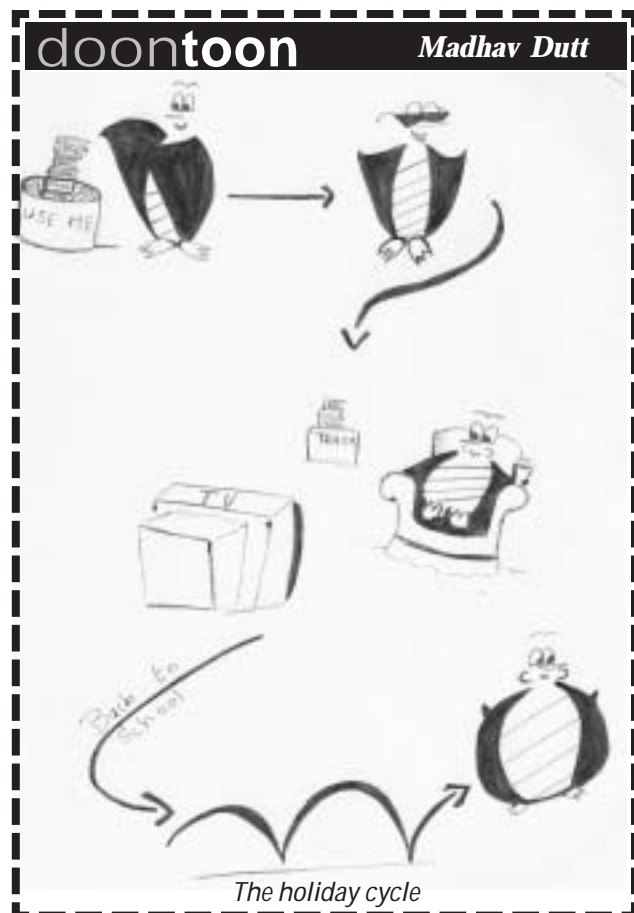
The following are the results of the **Inter-House Tennis Competition, 2010:**

Senior Cup	Junior Cup
1st: Hyderabad	1st: Hyderabad
2nd: Jaipur	2nd: Oberoi
3rd: Tata and Kashmir	3rd: Kashmir
5th: Oberoi	4th: Tata
	5th: Jaipur

Well done!

BOOKMARK

A book exhibition-cum-sale was organized in the Teachers' Centre by the Library Council for the entire School on Friday, May 28.



Unquotable Quotes

I sure I am keep up.

Pranjal Varshney, keeping with the times.

Turn it O-double-F-F!

Shashank Peshawaria demands.

I'll tell to your mom.

Siddharth Bidasaria, sneak.

Boards was fun!

Abhinav Mittal, nostalgic.

Hitler was inspired by philosophers like Nietzsche and Fietzsche.

Saarthak Singh, Alan Bollock in the making.

Opinion oll

During the holidays, would you rather stay at home or go for a vacation?



(302 members of the community were polled)

ies. The workshop on this topic was fairly interesting; it was a reconstruction of the real-life trial of a Chinese man, Liu Xiangbo, who had spoken in favour of democracy. We were divided into five groups: two prosecutors, two defence attorneys and the jury. This format was ingenious, and the debates were both heated and enjoyable. The fourth conference was on the topic *The necessity of war* by Paul Muhledahl, professor of Sciences Po. The workshop that followed resembled a Model UN conference, and Saib Ahmed and Jaiveer Jakhar advocated the necessity of war as the delegates of the USA, with Vibhav Gaur and I opposing them as delegates of Switzerland. The last day's conference was on the topic, *Should Europe become a country?* addressed by Dr. Claire Marzo, LSE Fellow in the EU. Even though the workshop was taken very lightly, Vibhav and Saib did very well in their presentations. In the end, Vibhav and Saib clinched a 'Best Speaker' for one conference each, and I received the award for the overall 'Best Speaker.'

Something unique about the SPEAC was that it was not only a competition, but a rich cultural exchange as well. Every day, there were interesting activities such as language workshops (where we learnt Chinese and French), karaoke singing, and cultural presentations made by participants, about their respective countries. We also visited Etreat along the English Channel, famous for its scenic elephant cliffs and beautiful countryside. Even the food was exquisite, although some of us lamented the lack of 'vegetarianne' food. After the conference, we visited Paris and its many iconic tourist destinations such as the Eiffel Tower, the Notre Dame (on a Sunday, while the church service was going on), and the Louvre Museum. Thereafter, we spent two days in Amsterdam, where we were fortunate to see the tulip gardens (Keukenhof) in full bloom, the Van Gogh Museum and the Rijks Museum. This trip left us with many indelibly pleasant memories of the friends we made, the places we visited and the food we ate. Truly, there was nothing more that we could have asked for.

| Short Story |

The Samurai

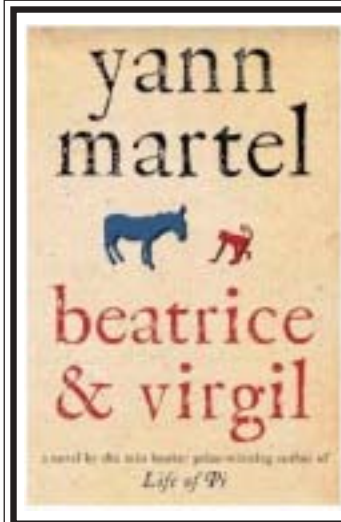
Uday Shriram

Curved steel. Ripples of muscle behind a painted, glaring mask. Fresh from the potter's wheel. The highlands tremble at his approach. Stoic frame against an orange sunset. Perfect.

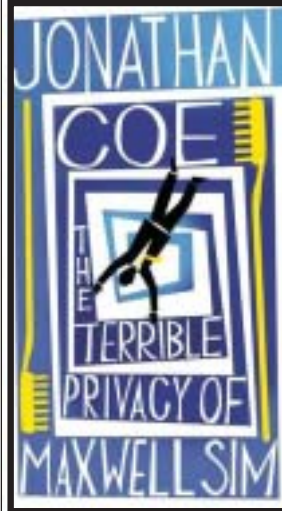
And then he realizes it – he is a servant of servitude. His armour is a decorated cage. His mask stifles him. His skin has never felt the caressing breeze. His eyes see only in shades of red. Unsheathe his soul and it is as cold as the steel he wields. And fear grips this machine, emotions batter the numb shield of perfection. He claws his mask off, throws it in the pool where his reflection had appeared for a fleeting moment before the ripples erased it. But what a beautiful face, he thinks. Beauty is an unfamiliar thing. The armour is peeled off – cuirass and couter, gauntlets and greaves, brigandine and breastplate, hauberk and helmet. Naked and proud, he gasps when the Sakura laden wind trickles into his nostrils. The icy pool nurses him in its embrace. Lips quench the centuries of thirst. The ecstasy paralyzes him. He is drowning in bliss. The beauty of the world fills his lungs and he drinks it in, every last drop.



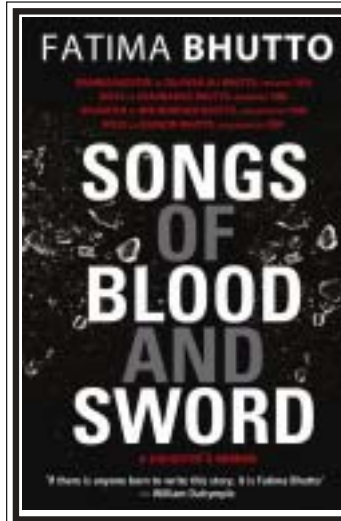
Holiday 'Book'ings



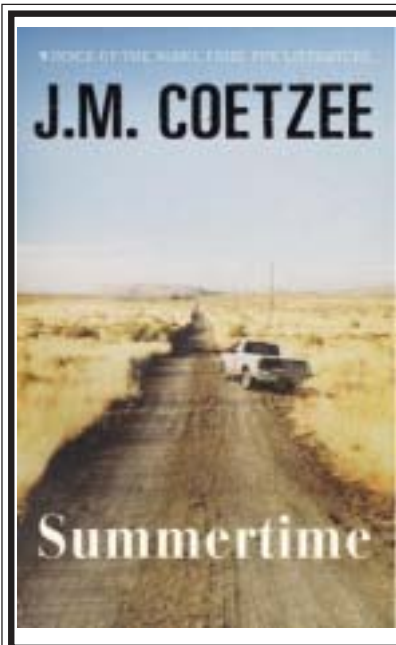
Beatrice and Virgil – **Yann Martel:** In his latest book, Yann Martel questions life and art, truth and deception, responsibility and complicity. The book's protagonist, Henry, is a struggling writer in a foreign city. His life changes when he goes out to post a letter to a fan. Haunting and unforgettable, this is an extraordinary feat of storytelling.



The Terrible Privacy of Maxwell Sim – **Jonathan Coe:** Jonathan Coe explores the nature of a father-daughter relationship. The father, Maxwell Sim's life is further complicated by a business proposition coming his way. He travels to the Shetland Isles for a corporate exercise. His journey makes him think about some of the deepest and darkest corners of his past.



Songs of Blood and Sword – **Fatima Bhutto:** *Songs of Blood and Sword* is an epic tale full of the romance and legend of feudal life, the glamour and license of the international political elite and, ultimately, the tragedy of four generations of a family defined by a political idealism that would destroy them. Fatima Bhutto searches for the truths behind the lives and deaths of the politicians from her family.



Summertime – **JM Coetzee:** Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize, 2009, JM Coetzee's *Summertime* completes the fictionalized memoir of *Boyhood* and *Youth*. Set in Cape Town, it is a portrait of an awkward young man whose lifestyle is regarded with suspicion by both his family and the South African government. The innovative format of fragmented entries from a writer's diary interspersed with interviews of his relatives, coupled with Coetzee's stark and stunning prose makes for a thought-provoking read.

Also on the shelves...

English

I am not a Serial Killer – Dan Wells

The Big Short – Michael Lewis

The Temple-Goers – Aatish Taseer

Stormlord Rising – David Baldacci

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (from the Millennium trilogy) – Stieg Larsson

Interior Decoration: Poems by 54 Women from 10 Languages (Edited by Ammu Joseph, Vasahth and Rita Menon)

Hindi

(Compiled by MHF)

Kuch Shabd, Kuch Lakeerein (poetry) – Vishvajit Singh

Ujaarh Mein Parindey (poetry) – Naim

Dukkham-Sukkham (novel) – Mamta Kalia

Seerheeyan Per Cheeta (novel) – Tejendra

Pratinidhi Kahaneeya (fiction) – Subhash Pant

Pratakshya (fiction) – Sanjay Kundan

Modern Hindi Short Stories – NBT



Sourced from the internet.



Now Screening



Iron Man 2 – After revealing his dual identity to the whole world, Tony Stark (Downey) is faced with pressure from the press, government and the public to share his technology with the army. He also discovers the arc reactor that is keeping him alive, is gradually killing him. Unwilling to publicize his developments he, along with Lt. Col. James ‘Rhodey’ Rhodes (Cheadle) and Pepper Potts (Paltrow), is faced with ever-powerful enemies.



Kites – J (Roshan) is a Bollywood dance teacher in Las Vegas who marries immigrant women who are in search of green cards. Gina (Ranaut) falls for J and he decides to marry her for the money as she is the daughter of a powerful casino owner. However, shockingly, he realizes that his future brother-in-law, Tony, is about to marry Natasha (Mori), whom he knows as Linda, the last of the immigrant women he married. Natasha and J spend a night together; Tony arrives at the apartment while J is there. They manage to escape and make a dash to Mexico with Tony and the police hot in pursuit.



Inception – From the acclaimed filmmaker Christopher Nolan, this original sci-fi is about Dom Cobb (DiCaprio) who is a skilled thief when it comes to stealing valuable secrets from the intimate and infinite world of dreams. His rare gift makes him a desirable player in the world of corporate espionage. However, this also makes him an international fugitive and costs him everything.



Knight and Day – Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz come together on the big screen for this action-comedy based on a fugitive couple. They find themselves on a glamorous and yet deadly mission where they cannot trust anything or anyone – even themselves. Amid shifting alliances and unexpected betrayals, they race across the globe depending on, yet suspecting, each other.



Killers – Jen Kornfeldt (Heigl), vacationing after a bad break-up happens to meet a top-secret government assassin, Spencer Aimes (Kutcher). This eventually leads to a swift blissful marriage, which takes a drastic turn when Spencer and Jen learn he’s the target of a multi-million dollar hit and that hired killers have been stalking them for years. The couple try to save their marriage, social status and most importantly, themselves.

Prince of Persia: Sands of Time – From the popular gaming platform, the *Prince of Persia* movie strives to be as popular as the game itself. Set in the mystical lands of Persia, a young prince unknowingly was tricked to release the Sands of Time that turn out to destroy the kingdom. In his efforts to redeem his mistake, he races against dark forces to safeguard his kingdom.



How to Train Your Dragon – This animated film is projected to be a family entertainer, with a simple plot: the protagonist, an inept Viking, eventually goes on to save his tribe. The film is peppered with the protagonist’s sardonic remarks and repeated bunglings, set against stunning visuals. Being a Dreamworks production, one can have great expectations from this one.

Also on the list...

- The Karate Kid*
- Shrek: Forever After*
- Toy Story 3*
- Grown Ups*
- The Twilight Saga: Eclipse*
- Salt*

Sourced from the internet.

Game on!

Rohan Nath Behl and Dhruv Sirohi

Heavy Rain (PS3) - *Heavy Rain* is a first of its kind 'interactive drama' video game exclusively for the PS3. It has a very unique style of gameplay which is very much like a film full of drama and interactive choices and consequences. The game has received very positive reviews on the whole due to this new style of play. The gameplay has very high-end graphics. The game has been developed by Quantic Dream, a fairly unheard of developer so we can expect anything. The games plot revolves around a serial killer called the Origami Killer. It features four playable characters which makes it all the more fascinating and longer to finish as each one of them have a different storyline. This one will be on the shelves in June so don't forget to catch it.



Super Mario Galaxy 2 (Wii) - *Super Mario Galaxy 2* is the much-awaited sequel to the highly popular *Super Mario Galaxy*. This one's for all Wii lovers and of course Mario fans. The gameplay is improved and lays emphasis on new 3D planets and new enemies. *Super Mario Galaxy 2* is more of a pastime game and not for serious gamers. Though it has received very high previews, anyone who has played its prequel will know that this game has very high expectations which it may not be able to meet.



God of War 3 (PS3) - Kratos is back! This third edition of the God of War Franchise is a PS3 exclusive with new and improved gameplay and graphics. Here we see a whole new range of meaner and larger enemies and weapons which can do some nasty things. *God of War 3* has been met with widely positive reviews and is touted to be one of the best PS3 games to be made till date. The gameplay is the same old third-person beat-em-up genre with new controls and better combos and movement. The plot picks up where *God of War 2* left off and progresses into a long battle with a range of enemies and of course the final battle with Zeus. This one is certainly highly anticipated as it makes some startling revelations about Kratos and the Gods of Olympus. It will be in the markets this summer.



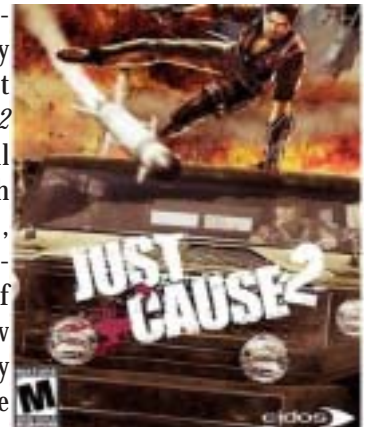
Sourced from the internet.

Battlefield: Bad Company 2 (PC,PS3,X360) - *Battlefield: Bad Company 2* is the latest addition to the *Battlefield* series and a direct sequel to *Battlefield: Bad Company*. This first-person shooter uses a squad-based style of gameplay and is similar to its predecessors. In terms



of large maps and vehicles. This game has received highly positive reviews mainly because of its new and improved multiplayer which has many new modes and can allow upto 64 players on a map. The weapons and vehicles too are improved with a modern setup including Black Hawk helicopters and UAVs. As far as the single player campaign goes, there is a wide array of missions from South America to South East Asia. This is a certain buy for all hardcore war gamers and is out on all three important platforms. *Battlefield: Bad Company 2* will be out soon, and easily available.

Just Cause 2 (PC,PS3,X360) - *Just Cause 2* is the sequel to the sandbox-style action game of 2006, *Just Cause*. This game is brought to you by Square Enix, Eidos and Swedish developers Avalanche Studios. This one is on a fictional South-Asian island with an advanced version of the gameplay engine used in *Just Cause*. *Just Cause 2* brings to you an all new AI engine with smarter enemies, more realistic surroundings and of course a whole new array of weapons, my favourite being the grapple hook. *Just Cause 2* also brings a lot of new vehicles and better handling like the Boeing 737. This game leaves a lot of space for imagination, from towing a plane by boat to base jumping from a fifty-storey building, *Just Cause 2* has it all. The plot revolves around Agent Rico Rodriguez trying to bring down Panau dictator Pandak 'Baby' Panay and also facing his former boss, Tom Sheldon. *Just Cause 2* received fairly positive reviews and will be out in early July. So everyone who liked the first part should definitely check this one out.



Other games to look out for:

Dead Rising 2 (PS3, Xbox 360)

Green Day: Rock Band (PS3, Xbox 360, Wii)

Prince of Persia: The Forgotten Sands (PS3, Xbox 360, Wii, PC)

Star Wars: The Force Unleashed II (PS3, Xbox 360, Wii, PSP, DS)

Starcraft 2 (PC, Mac)

Summer Playlist



AC/DC – *Iron Man 2 Soundtrack*: The music underscores the high energy and excitement of the film. The album features an almost half-and-half mix of songs from both the Bon Scott and Brian Johnson eras of AC/DC with fifteen tracks from ten different albums, ranging from 1975 to 2008. Only two songs *Shoot to Thrill* and *Highway to Hell* were used completely in the film, while one song *Back in Black* featured in the prequel.



Rolling Stones – *Exile on Main Street (2010 Edition)*: The original *Rolling Stones - Exile on Main Street* was regarded as one of the greatest albums in the history of rock and roll. When the album was released it interwove varying musical genres and instruments into a compelling rhythmic masterpiece. This disc features newly-recorded songs such as the *Plundered My Soul*, *Dancing in the Light*, *Following the River* and *Pass The Wine* along with more recent versions of *Soul Survivor* and *Loving Cup*.



K'naan – *Troubadour*: *Troubadour* is the second album by Somali-Canadian hip-hop artiste K'naan. This album received a lot of positive reviews when it released but has been sliding down the Top 200 Albums list ever since. *Troubadour* reflects on K'naan violent history but still has many melodic choruses and therefore has a feel of many Eminem's songs. This album is a must listen for all rap fans and includes popular songs like *Wavin' Flag*.



Godsmack – *The Oracle*: The chug-chug guitar grooves, crash-bash drum work, and singing style of Godsmack mastermind Sully Erna are the prominent ingredients to every one of the band's hits and add the much needed flavour to songs such as *Keep Away*. *The Oracle* certainly reiterates all that has made Godsmack a successful band, and it proves that they are capable of posing a challenge to other similar bands.



In Queue:

- Toni Braxton – *Pulse*
- Raymond v Raymond – *Usher*
- Deftones – *Diamond Eyes*
- Court Yard Hounds – *Court Yard Hounds*
- Lady Antebellum – *Need You Now*
- MercyMe – *The Generous Mr Lovewell*



Sourced from the internet.

The 90s Club 2010



ISC, 2010

Total number of students that appeared: 66

Above 90%: 36

80%-90%: 20

70%-80%: 8

60%-69%: 2

Class average: 87.58% (English+best 3 subjects)

Name	Score
Manit Bhandari	97.50%
Saurav Mediratta	96.75%
Vibhas Pahuja	96.25%
Archit Kumar	96.00%
Vinayak Thapliyal	96.00%
Ashutosh Kejriwal	95.25%
Siddhant Mittal	95.00%
Aruj Shukla	94.75%
Aaditya Gupta	94.50%
Shrey Gaurishankar	94.50%
Vijay Karan Kapoor	94.00%
Pranjal Singh	93.75
Ayaan Patel	93.75%
Aditya Sukhia	93.75%
Kushagra Jaiswal	93.75%
Tushar Agarwal	93.50%
Ranjai Sodhi	93.25%
Jai Sharma	93.00%
Arjan Veer Maini	93.00%
Rishi Sood	93.00%
Sagar Agarwal	92.75%
Piyush Gupta	92.75%
Vishesh Kochher	92.75%
Siddharth Bhatnagar	92.25%
Devvrat Patney	92.25%
Aditya Kothiwal	92.25%
Akash Binrajka	92.25%
Govind Singh	91.25%
Anmol Joshi	91.00%
Ankan Datta	90.75%
Melvin Michael	90.50%
Vedant Chandra	90.00%
Dhruv Kumar	90.00%
Amit Gupta	89.75% (90%)
Ritvik Kothiwal	89.50% (90%)
Rajit Garg	89.50% (90%)

ICSE, 2010

Total number of students that appeared: 96

Above 90%: 49

80%-90%: 34

70%-80%: 10

60%-69%: 3

Class average: 87.19% (English+best 4 subjects)

Name	Score
Spandan Agrawal	96.2%
Revant Nayar	95.4%
Tushar Khurana	95.2%
Varun Gupta	95%
Aashray Batra	94.4%
Abhinav Mittal	94.4%
Vatsal Modi	94.4%
Tushar Gupta	94.2%
Sachit Taneja	94.0%
Raghav Puri	93.2%
Suyash Agarwal	93.2%
Vikram Kejriwal	92.8%
Shubham Agarwal	92.6%
Anmol Jamwal	92.6%
Mukund Nyati	92.6%
Nipun Batra	92.4%
Udai Bothra	92.4%
Utkarsh Garg	92.4%
Sagar Karnavat	92.4%
Vihan Khanna	92.2%
Karan Gulati	92.2%
Karmanya Malhotra	92.2%
Piroune Balachandran	92.2%
Prabal Jindal	92.0%
Sidhant Dixit	92%
Prabhjot Singh	91.8%
Vigya Singh Dhiman	91.8%
Anshuman Bhargava	91.6%
Vikram Singh Gill	91.4%
Aaditya Jain	91.4%
Gursehej Oberoi	91.4%
Kushagra Singh	91.2%
Sharan Seth	91.0%
Shaurya Sinha	91.0%
Apurv Agarwal	91.0%
Virein Chabra	91.0%
Rana Chowgule	90.8%
Vibhav Gaur	90.8%
Rohan Shriram	90.4%
Dhruv Mahajan	90.4%
Gaurang Ahuja	90.2%
Yash Singhania	90.0%
Pranoy Bohara	90.0%
Simarpreet Singh	90.0%
Sambuddha Naha	89.6% (90%)
Raghav Chandra	89.6% (90%)
Karanbir Duggal	89.6% (90%)

Home-Grown College Consultants

The Doon School Weekly interviewed **Umang Dua** (ex-409 K, '05) and **Kunal Pal** (ex-338 H, '05), who founded College Connect, a college consultancy service for students applying abroad, and conducted a workshop on Monday, May 10 in the IT Centre

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What made you start College Connect?

Umang Dua (UMD): I just graduated from Amherst and was exploring a couple of options, both in India and in the United States. I had been fortunate enough to get into Harvard Business School and wanted to defer it to do something exciting. I had noticed that most of the admission consultants in India tended to be quite a joke – they were really pricey, uninformed, and impersonal. I mentioned the idea of *College Connect* to Kunal and, even though he initially thought I was crazy, before we knew it, we had started operating from New Delhi.

Kunal Pal (KNP): It was definitely a little difficult to begin with, especially since a lot of people dismissed us as kids. But we knew that if we built a counselling system based on real experience, with people who've applied to, studied in, and worked at admissions offices in colleges across the world, it would eventually work. With the results and response we've had last year, I think we have managed to establish quite a niche market for ourselves.

DSW: What part of your life in School defines you? What are your most prominent recollections of your time in School?

KNP: I think it's difficult to break down my time in School, especially since I tend to think of it as one long, wonderful experience. I'm grateful for a lot of activities that I was allowed to do, but I'm more grateful for the people that I got to know while doing them. The sense of community that one develops is special, and that is something that lasts.

UMD: I definitely agree with Kunal. I mean, looking back, many specific incidents start to get hazy, but what School really gives you is this lasting connection with the people you were close to. Even now, most of my close friends are Doscocs and, wherever you are in the world, there's this connection between Doscocs that I don't think many other schools or communities, for that matter, have.

DSW: In that regard, how, in your opinion, can one truly measure a person's capabilities?

UMD: The unfortunate answer is that there is no way of measuring a person's capabilities. Ideally, you'd get to know a person before judging him or her, but, given how everything works, from applications to everyday interactions, people are quick to assess each other on first impressions. In a perfect world, along with your accomplishments and achievements, there'd be so much more that would factor in to judging capabilities.

DSW: Do you feel students are becoming myopic in their view of life?

UMD: Even six years after finishing school, I'm constantly caught between what I'm expected to do and what I want to do. I do think many students concentrate too much on following conventional, prescribed paths. It's important to have a sense of who you are and the sort of things you want to do with your life before you start obsessing over colleges and degrees. This applies for everyone, me included.

DSW: Kunal, as a former Editor-in-Chief, how does it feel to be interviewed for the Weekly?

KNP: Humbling and surreal in equal measure. There are a lot of people, including myself, who read the *Weekly* online and I'm glad that it is still an important part of School. I know juggling the *Weekly* with everything else can be hard, but, since you almost certainly have a nicer computer to work on than we did, it shouldn't be too difficult!

True Colours

Nipun Mohan reports the Inter-House Art Competition held in April-May, 2010

The irony of an art contest is that art cannot be judged. The main purpose of the Inter-House Art Competition, therefore, was to involve students from all forms and houses. It was essentially an art festival in which boys participate and exhibit their works. The 'Inter-House' prefix was to encourage greater participation. Unless these events are given such labels and incentives, participation is (shamefully) minimal and disinterested. Furthermore, the appointment of House Art Captains required senior artists to mentor, train and encourage participation amongst junior enthusiasts in their respective houses. In this regard, I feel this competition was successful.

When the project was on the drawing board, the inclusion of categories such as a short video production and installations was considered. However, in the end, it whittled down to ceramics, painting, drawing and mixed media. This was, after all, the first time this competition was going to be held, so simplicity was our best bet, to see whether such a competition would be feasible. In future, with the new Art School operational, I am sure we could expand the scope of this competition. After all, the Art School will provide facilities for digital video and photo editing. Art itself must change with the times. We must acknowledge these potential additions to the Inter-House Art Competition as modern forms of art.

There were some interesting entries in the first Art Competition. Saarthak Singh's *Things Fall Apart* was a self-portrait on brown paper, drawn with energetic strokes of black and white. Amartya Bhowmick painted his rendition of multiplicity of the human mind. Sanat Verma's painting, *Colour-Blind*, was also an intriguing work. Vishal Tummala's *Death Leads to Life* had an almost mystical use of colours. Hyderabad House's collage, *Every face tells its own story*, used small faces (photographs of boys and masters on campus) stuck together to create a larger face. Other houses used global issues such as terrorism or, poverty as a central theme for their mixed media entry. In ceramics Saptarshi Biswas's *Excel* was noteworthy. These individual ideas and experiments in art brought true colour to this event.

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