

The Doon School WEEKLY

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Talking About the Walk

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Shekhar Gupta, Editor-in-Chief of The Indian Express, who was the Chief Guest for the Prize Giving Ceremony.

Doon School Weekly (DSW): At which moment in your life did you decide to pursue journalism?

Shekhar Gupta (SKG): Well I don't think any sort of moment like that ever occurred. On the other hand I had gone to my college to get my name corrected on my marksheet. There I found an ad for a journalism course exam that was to be held that afternoon. I took the exam and the results were put up the following morning. My name was there and I thought that it might be interesting, but people in this field were poorly paid then and any good reporter was put in jail.

DSW: How free do you feel the Indian media is today?

SKG: Indian media is one of the most free medias in the world today. If any journalist working for a decent organization says that he/she cannot do something because of lack of freedom, it is a lie, because there is no one to put pressure on you. Additionally, governments have also become very weak and there are so many people working in the media. If someone was to put pressure on one, then the information would travel to someone else who would publish it. So, lack of freedom is not an excuse for lousy journalism. On the other hand there are different problems such as extreme competition that a keen journalist faces.

DSW: Apart from good journalism, do you think reporters should also engage in social service as the Indian media is a revenue driven business?

SKG: I do not disagree either way because at the end of the day, it is a revenue based business and it must remain this way because unless you get profits you cannot have freedom. If you have to depend on someone for your financial aid then you won't be free. In a way, you have to earn your freedom. I don't see any conflict between good journalism and the market place because the market place rewards good journalism. Journalists do not have to focus on doing only social service; reporting the truth and voicing the opinions of the oppressed is enough. I believe truth never hurts anybody even though they say so. The job of a journalist is to find the truth, check the truth and write the truth.

DSW: Do you think sensationalism in news is a bad thing?

SKG: Most news channels are not reporting in a classical manner anymore. They are running with the story before the story is even there. The process of journalism is to check facts before they are reported, and this seems to be a dying practice. One should always believe that he can be wrong and this is not practiced by many TV channels. Many times, the volume of the channel increases on its own without the remote being touched, and this is because the people in the news seem to get angrier and angrier. Then while the story is unfolding there is background music. News channels around the world do not have background music because it isn't a movie or a serial. This is why when I get fed up by these channels, I switch to Al Jazeera or BBC where you can calmly see some good news and gain some knowledge about the world around you.

DSW: Do you believe that ethics in Indian news rooms still exist? And why is there a lack of long form journalism or international news in Indian media?

SKG: Well I would say, by and large India's journalists are honest and ethical. Sadly though the tendency to practice bad journalism by adopting unethical practices by some who have entered the large scale profit driven networks seems to have developed. Like in the case of cricket; when the British held the power, they made the rules. Now that the power is shifting towards India, we make the rules. People are now printing 'money' instead of newspapers. Frankly I do not mind people selling their spaces for money as long as they provide a disclosure. I believe that long form journalism has suffered in the last fifteen years as people's attention spans have become shorter. There is merit in being concise and to the point but there is also merit in being able to expand your thoughts and let your report flow like a stream. The signs show that readers are becoming more demanding over time. In the Indian Express you will find there are still some long form journalists. Many readers have replied in a positive manner and appreciated such writing, especially in the Sports Column. This is not the response being received from every reader, but it is definitely a start. When you go to journalism school you are taught that there are 3Ws

(continued on page 5)

AWARDS 2012

School Colours have been awarded to:

Yuv Vir Khosla, Sidhant Sachdev, Arjun Khetan, Ujjwal Dahuja, Saswat Dhandania, Rohil Mehrotra (Re-awarded), Arival Gupta, Adhiraj Singh and Aditya Vikram Gupta

Headmaster's Award for the Most Outstanding Contribution to the School: The School Soccer Team

The Doon School Cup: Jaipur House

General Proficiency Awards for the year 2012 are :

John Martyn Cup for Juniors: Nikhil Saraf

Marker Cup for Seniors: Yuv Vir Khosla

Academic Cup: Oberoi House. Academic Awards for the year 2012 are:

D Form:

Ramanan Cup for English: Mohammad Omar Chishti

Headmaster's Cup for Sciences: Mohammad Omar Chishti

Headmaster's Cup for Hindi: Arjun Singh and Salman Mohammad Mallick

V.N.Kapur Cup for Mathematics: Shiven Khanna

Headmaster's Cup for History and Geography: Arunav Vaish

Headmaster's Cup for Sanskrit: Shikhar Trivedi

Effort Prizes: Yuvan Jaidka, Imaad Parvez and Ahaan Sanjay Gupta

C Form:

Ramanan Cup for English: Rudra Srivastava

Headmaster's Cup for Sciences: Rudra Srivastava

Headmaster's Cup for Hindi: Rudra Srivastava

V.N.Kapur Cup for Mathematics: Tanmay Nautiyal

Headmaster's Cup for History and Geography: Smriti Nair

Headmaster's Cup for Sanskrit: Smriti Nair and Rudra Srivastava

Effort Prizes: Umang Garg, Yash Killa and Priyanshu Raj

B Form:

Headmaster's Cup for English: Arnav Bhavanani

Headmaster's Cup for Mathematics: Yogesh Agarwal

Headmaster's Cup for Hindi: Anvay Grover

Headmaster's Cup for Sciences: Anvay Grover

Headmaster's Cup for Humanities: Shlok Jain

Headmaster's Cup for Economic Applications:

Aryaman Panwar and Aditya Maheshwari

Headmaster's Cup for Computer Applications: Nikhil Saraf

Headmaster's Cup for Environmental Applications: Hrithik Shukla

Effort Prizes: Arjun Singh Kapur, Vivek Vishwanathan and Arnav Jain

A Form

Headmaster's Cup for English: Aditya Bhattacharya

Headmaster's Cup for Mathematics: Preetham Mohan

Headmaster's Cup for Sciences: Preetham Mohan

Headmaster's Cup for Hindi: Suyash Raj Shivam

Headmaster's Cup for Computer Applications: Prabnur Singh Bal

Headmaster's Cup for Environmental Applications: Shivam Sharma

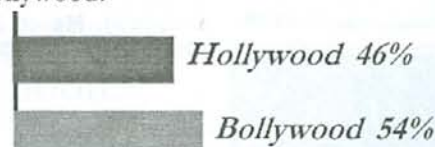
Headmaster's Cup for Economic Applications: Aditya Gandhi

Headmaster's Cup for Humanities: Ayush Tripathi

Effort Prizes: Siddharth Popli, Yash Upadhyay and

Opinion oll

What is your choice of media, Hollywood or Bollywood?



(334 members of the School community were polled)

Next Week's Question: Do you think the highlight of the Prize Giving Ceremony should be School Colours?

Ayushman Arora

S Form

Headmaster's Cup for English: Raghav Kothiwala

Headmaster's Cup for Mathematics: Lanka Adarsh

Headmaster's Cup for Commerce: Ritesh Popat Shinde

Headmaster's Cup for Accounts: Marut Garg

Headmaster's Cup for Economics: Chaitanya Fatehpuria

Headmaster's Cup for History: Raniz Bordoloi

Headmaster's Cup for Political Science: Raniz Bordoloi

Effort Prizes: Nipurn Dutta, Suyash Bishnoi and Varun Michael Pais

SC Form

Marker Cup for English: Raghav Nath

Marker Cup for Mathematics: Dhairik Dinesh Fuletra

Marker Cup for Physics: Dhairik Dinesh Fuletra

Marker Cup for Chemistry: Mahak Sharma

Marker Cup for Commerce: Vidit Sidana

Marker Cup for Accounts: Vidit Sidana

Marker Cup for Economics: Siddharth Kaul

Marker Cup for History: Arjun Parmar

Marker Cup for Political Science: Shrish Srivastava

Marker Cup for Psychology: Sanat Kumar Thakur

Effort Prizes: Shrish Srivastava, Uday Vir Lakhanpal and Saif Ali

IB Headmasters Cup 2012:

English A (Standard Level): Ujjwal Dahuja

Hindi B (Standard Level): Ujjwal Dahuja

Economics (Higher Level): Ujjwal Dahuja

Mathematics (Higher Level): Pranay Raj Kapoor

Mathematics (Standard Level): Vikramaditya Kapur

French Abinitio: Vikramaditya Kapur

Physics (Higher Level): Shivam Goel

Chemistry (Standard Level): Arnav Joshi

History (Higher Level): Kunal Kanodia

Computer Science (Higher Level): Siddhant Gupta

Effort Prizes:

S Form Effort Prizes (IB):

Kunal Kanodia, Harshil Aggarwal and Aamir Salim Shah

SC Form Effort Prizes (IB):

Yash Madhav Johri and Siddhant Gupta

King Constantine Award for contribution to Round Square Ideals: Lanka Adarsh

Kanwar J.B.Singh Award for Community Service: Arnav Joshi

Best Behaved Boy in SC Form: Sanat Kumar Thakur, Dhairik Dinesh Fuletra, Parth Gupta and Arjun Khaitan

Gentleman Player of the year: Sidhant Sachdev and Arjun Middha

Saturday, February 11, 2013, 3:30 pm in the Nandal Kilachand Library

The following were present for the meeting:

1. Dr. Peter McLaughlin
2. Mr. Philip Burrett
3. Mr. Sameer Katre
4. Dr. M C Joshi
5. Mr. D K Sharma
6. Mr. P K Nair
7. Mr. A Qezilbash
8. Mr. Piyush Malaviya
9. Mr. Anjan Chaudhary
10. Mr. Pankaj Joshi
11. Mrs Priyanka Majumdar
12. Karan Pratap Singh Kairon (1-J)
13. Sidharth Sethi (8-T)
14. Kabir Sethi (5-H)
15. Rahul Srivastava (48-H)
16. Devesh Sharma (63-H)
17. Amol Pajni (259-H)
18. Sasyak Pattnaik (340-H)
19. Anshul Tibrewal (80-O)
20. Vrindam Nagpal (638-O)
21. Dhruv Johri (254-O)
22. Dhruv Pais (353-O)
23. Udbhav Agarwal (67-T)
24. Vikramaditya Kapur (51-T)
25. Smayan Sahni (243-T)
26. Sumer Vaidya (356-T)
27. Abhinav Kejriwal(679-J)
28. Rohan Agarwal (250- J)
29. Suchet Khurana (368- J)
30. Madhav Dutt (35-K)
31. Aahan Menon (78-K)
32. Rudra Srivastav (264-K)
33. Codanda Cariapa Chengappa (287-K)

- Headmaster (Chairman)
 Deputy Headmaster
 Director of Administrative Affairs
 Dean of Activities
 Dean of Sports
 Dean of Studies
 Dean of Students' Welfare
 Director of Public Affairs
 Housemasters' Representative
 Teachers' Representative
 Dames' Representative
 Secretary
 School Captain
 Prefects' Representative
 H House Senior Representative
 H House Senior Representative
 H House Junior Representative
 H House Junior Representative
 O House Senior Representative
 O House Senior Representative
 O House Junior Representative
 O House Junior Representative
 T House Senior Representative
 T House Senior Representative
 T House Junior Representative
 T House Junior Representative
 J House Senior Representative
 J House Junior Representative
 J House Junior Representative
 K House Senior Representative
 K House Senior Representative
 K House Junior Representative
 K House Junior Representative

1. Election of the Secretary of the School Council

The Headmaster and School Captain welcomed the Council and put forth the immediate issue of electing the Secretary of the Council for the forthcoming year. Sidharth Sethi announced that the two candidates would be Rahul Srivastava and Karan Partap Singh Kairon. The Council then went into voting by secret ballot. After the votes were counted, Sidharth Sethi announced that Karan Partap Singh Kairon would be Secretary of the School Council for 2013-2014.

2.The role of the School Council

As the new Secretary of the Council, Karan Kairon proposed guidelines that he felt the committee should adhere to. He felt that all juniors in the Council should put forth their views and ideas and be active during meetings. The Council was also reminded that all decisions taken should be taken keeping in mind the entire school community and the lasting effects that these decisions will have. The Secretary also reminded the members that they had been elected by their houses to be present during meetings, thus they must send in a stand-in only if an immediate or unavoidable circumstance arises and should respect the position they have been elected to.

3.The new mentor system

Karan Kairon reminded the Council about a point that was brought up by Yuv Khosla towards the end of last term regarding the guardian system that the school had in place. The Council felt that a more all rounded and dynamic mentor system needed to be put in place under which a senior boy would mentor a D-Former. Sidharth Sethi felt that a separate mentor system was needed which would run parallel to the existing guardian system. Madhav Dutt urged the Council to take a decision on the matter since enough debate had already transpired in the previous meeting. The Council took a vote and decided that S Formers would be mentors for the D Formers. A subcommittee comprising of the following was set up to make guidelines and rules for the S Formers: PBR, Sidharth Sethi, Aaryaman Scindia (replaced Abhinav Kejriwal), Vrindam Nagpal, Dhruv Pais and Dhruv Johri. The sub-committee will get back to the council regarding the matter in the next meeting.

As there were no other matters, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary,
 Karan Pratap Singh Kairon

Chairman,
 Dr. Peter McLaughlin

दून स्कूल: विविध संस्कृतियों का मेल

यशराज अग्रवाल

दून स्कूल भारत के प्रतिष्ठित विद्यालयों में से एक है। जब इस स्वप्न के जन्मदाता एस. आर. दास ने दून स्कूल की परिकल्पना की थी तब उनके मन में यह कल्पना थी कि यह स्कूल भारतीयों को उच्चतम स्तर की शिक्षा देगा। आज, सत्तर वर्षों के बाद भी दून स्कूल उनके इस सपने पर खरा उतर रहा है। भारत के विविध क्षेत्रों से आने वाले छात्र समता के साथ यहाँ बिना किसी भेद-भाव के शिक्षा प्राप्त करते हैं।

आज का भारत एक बड़ी समस्या से दो चार हो रहा है। वह समस्या है भेदभाव की। देश में जहाँ एक ओर जाति के नाम पर दंगे होते हैं, राज्य के नाम पर लोगों को सताया जाता है, भाषा के नाम तनाव हो जाते हैं, धर्म के नाम पर समस्याएँ खड़ी की जाती हैं, राजनैतिक सोच को लेकर असहिष्णुता का वातावरण बनाया जाता है वहीं दूसरी ओर दून स्कूल विविध संस्कृतियों को एक साथ लेकर चलता है। विविधता को अपनी ताकत बनाता है। मेरा मानना है कि जीवन के अलग अलग क्षेत्रों में दून स्कूल के छात्रों की सफलता के पीछे यह एक बहुत बड़ा कारण है। दून स्कूल के छात्रों के साथ विविध राज्यों और समुदायों से आने वाली विविध भाषाएँ, धार्मिक मान्यताएँ, सामुदायिक संस्कृतियाँ आदि यहाँ मिलकर एक हो जाती हैं। संस्कृतियों के इस संगम से प्रत्येक छात्र को कुछ न कुछ नया सीखने को मिलता है। संस्कृतियों के मेल का छात्र के मनोविज्ञान पर असर पड़ता है तथा वह लोगों को अच्छी तरह समझना और उनकी भावनाओं की कद्र करना सीखता है। वह अपरिचितों के साथ जुड़ने में सरलता महसूस करता है। उसकी जानकारी व्यापक हो जाती है। यह एक जाना-माना तथ्य है कि भारत के उत्तर पूर्वी-राज्यों पर आज भी उतना ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है जितना ध्यान भारत के अन्य भागों पर दिया जा रहा है। उन प्रदेशों में प्रगति की गति मेरी बात का समर्थन करती है। जहाँ तक दून स्कूल का सवाल है, यहाँ उत्तर-पूर्वी प्रदेशों से आए हुए बहुत सारे छात्र शिक्षा प्राप्त करते हैं। उन छात्रों के माध्यम से शेष छात्र भी वहाँ की स्थिति से अवगत हैं। समस्या का हल तभी निकल सकता है जब उसकी पूरी जानकारी हो। दून स्कूल के छात्र ही अपनी पृष्ठभूमि के कारण एक दिन भारत की दशा और दिशा बदलेंगे। भारत की संस्कृतियों के विषय ज्ञान के सहारे वे विकास को भारत के कोने कोने तक ले जा पाएँगे। भोजन डास्को के जीवन का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। यहाँ का भोजन भी कई प्रकार का होता है। प्रादेशिक और सांस्कृतिक विविधता यहाँ के भोजन में भी साफ़ दिखाई देती है। गुजरात का पोहा, दक्षिण का इडली-वडा, पंजाब

की दाल मखनी, हैदराबाद की बिर्यानी, लद्दाख और उत्तर-पूर्व के मोमो तथा अनेक मुगलई व्यंजन यहाँ के छात्रों के दैनिक भोजन में शामिल हैं। कहने का अर्थ है कि यहाँ अलग अलग स्तरों पर संस्कृतियों के बीच की दूरी को पाटने के प्रयास हो रहे हैं।

धारणा एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। अगर हम अपने मन में किसी एक निश्चित और एकांगी धारणा को लेकर चलेंगे तब हमारा ज्ञान आधा-अधूरा और पूर्वाग्रह से ग्रस्त होगा। पर, जब हम जीवन के विविध पक्षों को खुली आँखों और खुले मन से समझेंगे तभी हमारा ज्ञान पूरा और प्रभावी हो पाएगा। धर्म और जाति के नाम पर लाखों जानें गई हैं। परन्तु, वास्तव में यह हुआ इसलिए है क्योंकि एक दूसरे के विचारों तथा जीवन-शैलियों के प्रति सहिष्णुता नहीं पनप पाई। सह-अस्तित्व के सिद्धांत को नहीं समझा गया। दून स्कूल का छात्र केवल किताबों से ही शिक्षा प्राप्त नहीं करता है, वह तो जीवन के अनुभवों से सीखता है। अपने चरित्र और इरादों को उज्ज्वल करता है। मेरा पूर्ण विश्वास है कि दून स्कूल का स्कूली शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में अलग मुकाम इसलिए है क्योंकि यह स्थान सभी को साथ मिलकर चलना सिखाता है।

आने से तेरे

- रितेश शिंदे

आने से तेरे

लम्हा यह सज गया
दुआओं की बरसात में
भीग गयी रूह यह मेरी
होने से तेरे

हंसना मैं सीख गया
खुशियों के मौसम में
खिल उठा दिल यह मेरा

आने से तेरे

इंतज़ार को मेरे विराम मिल गया

बेरंग आँसुओं से

रंग गया दामन यह तेरा
होने से तेरे

शिकवों से नाता टूट गया

मुस्कुराने की वजहों से
रूबरू हुआ जहाँ यह मेरा

आने से तेरे

खुद को मैं फिर पा गया
यकीन आ गया तू है

सिर्फ

और सिर्फ मेरा

(continued from page 1)

and 1H; What, Why, Where, When, Who and How. Nowadays everyone knows the Where, When, Who and What. So, all you have to tell them is why and how and then we add what is next. Audiences now expect journalists to be more precise and informative which is why publications like the Economic Times are doing well globally.

DSW: Should the media just state facts as they are or should the journalists be allowed to express their own opinions as well?

SKG: When pertaining to facts we cannot be biased. Facts should be verified and put out as they are. One can have a view, an argument or even an agenda. That agenda has to be made clear. On the other hand if you are supporting a cause you have to justify why you are doing so and base all that you report on correctly investigated facts.

DSW: What advice would you give to all those students who aspire to become journalists?

SKG: I believe your school publishes eighteen publications which is a huge number for a school. There is a certain beauty in publishing. I would like to say that journalism today is a great profession and pays quite well. The profile of journalists is high and one has to work a lot to achieve a decent post in other professions, which is not necessary in journalism. If you know how to produce content, the medium will be found on its own. Even I don't know what I will do five years from now even though I have been in this industry for such a long time. I only have one skill, and that is to produce content of good quality. Which medium will be used tomorrow to take it forward is something I cannot plan today. By the end of 25 years there will be 25 crore handheld devices. So, 25 crore Indians will be able to access news on their palms. Think of the power a single article wields. So much fame can be gained. There is a great future for those aspiring to be journalists.

DSW: You connect with the people, both on screen and in print journalism. Which do you prefer?

SKG: For me, TV is the icing on the cake. My life remains in print and in long form. Sometimes it's too long! Today my column is fifteen hundred words, but since I am the editor, I can steal more space compared to others. For someone like me, print allows me to toy with wit. I will only be taken seriously because I have worked for many years in this field. I don't have a pretty face for TV. I am not an entertainer for a chat show. So, I can only bring a certain seriousness which my age and experience in publication gives me. I interviewed Spielberg last weekend and told him that I knew very little about movies, since I was more focused on politics. So he said, 'fine let's talk about politics'. We ended up talking about children, politics and animals which both our families love. We truly spoke like grown up men. If I did not have 35 years of print experience behind me I could not have done that.

| Report |

RSC, Nabha

Ananay Sethi reports on the RSC held in PPS, Nabha during the winter holidays.

The Junior Round Square Conference 2012, held at the Punjab Public School, Nabha, between December 14 and 16, proved to be a memorable one, not just for me, but for all those who participated in it. Being the sole representative of the Doon School, I had a heavy weight resting on my shoulders, but I feel I lived up to the saying: "Doscocs always rise to the occasion!"

The three days I spent there were memorable, and they made me realize the true essence of the Round Square ideals that shape the world even today. The theme of the Conference was: "Aspire to Inspire." All the visiting schools were very friendly, and we got along very well. The first day of the Conference was ushered in by the flag bearing ceremony. It was a proud moment for me when I carried the Doon School banner, fluttering in the breeze. Post this event, the Keynote speaker, Ms. Bindra from Welham Boys' talked about the theme and gave us a completely new perspective on the whole concept. We were then divided into various Barazas, and I was part of the Bramhaputra Baraza. We explored and debated on two topics: "to find your inner voice to inspire others" and "the power of one." An intense discussion took place within groups and in the end, we all shared a common belief of the topics, which, I think, was the aim of the exercise. After this, we all took part in debating, making flags for our countries, and even making cartoons on the theme. This allowed us to discuss the same theme in different fields; albeit in a more interactive, intuitive and entertaining.

The next day began with horse-riding and a band display which was quite interesting. We were then divided into two groups that visited different factories. The factory which I went to was called 'Preet Tractor Factory.' We were shown the various parts which constitute a tractor and the assembly line for a combine harvester. On the return journey we stopped at the Hira Mahal which has a vast history behind it. Sadly, due to negligence it was in a poor state. There we conducted a Cleanliness Drive and after an hour and a half of tiring work we put up a banner to make people aware. On returning, we attended a multi-cultural festival and the headmaster's field was fully occupied by traditional Punjabi stalls. The day ended with a dance which was quite exciting and enjoyable.

The last and final day began with a speech which was not only enlightening but also inspirational. This was followed by our last Baraza which, as always, was thoroughly enjoyable. At the end of the day a Prize-Giving Ceremony was held. I too performed but being the sole representative from School, I performed a simple tabla recital which was greatly appreciated by the audience.

This conference gave me the chance I needed to bring out the best in me, and I shall cherish it forever. It was thoroughly enjoyable and I encourage all juniors to attend such conferences. I believe I have truly Aspired to Inspire!

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

Raniz Bordoloi

Various thoughts came to my mind as I sat in the Rosebowl, watching the Prize Giving Ceremony unfold in front of the audience. Once the ceremony was over, and I got the chance to share some of these thoughts, I realized that I was not the only one having them. Moreover, once I have communicated them through the medium of the *Weekly*, I am sure they will resonate with others who have thought the same, and provide a different perspective to those whose line of thought does not match mine. But let me not keep you guessing.

The first thought which came to my mind was in the form of a question: what was the purpose of the Prize Giving Ceremony, or rather, what *should* be the purpose of the Prize Giving Ceremony? According to me, the ceremony is a fitting farewell to the batch passing out, our own Graduation Ceremony of sorts. And hence, the prizes being given out should primarily be for the students passing out. I believe that the innumerable awards presented during the ceremony for all kinds of achievement took away from the feeling of apprehension and excitement that is felt when the ScLs are presented with their awards and Colours. After three hours, when it was the turn of ScLs to be awarded their Colours and be recognized for their various accomplishments, there was neither the time to properly applaud such achievements, nor the energy to show how we truly valued these seniors and how we are going to miss them. In other words, I feel that we were not able to fully appreciate the essence of the School Colours and the formal *Auld Lang Syne*. The ceremony drifted away from its purpose.

Moreover, due to the major portion of time being spent in distributing a plethora of awards, the Headmaster's speech had to be done away with. This was thoroughly disappointing as the Headmaster knows the ScLs very well and would have done justice to his speech. This was the last opportunity for not only the Headmaster to address the passing out batch, but, through him, for the community to bid farewell to the students before they stepped out into the unknown world. A few inspiring words would not only have been reassuring but also fitting to a ceremony which intends to bid farewell to those who have spent the last six years of their lives within the walls of Chandbagh. Surely, other DoscOs who were recognized for their commendable achievements have countless days to look forward to, days when they would go and shake the Headmaster's hand and receive our appreciation for excelling. Hence, it should not be a tough decision to mark the Prize Giving Ceremony as one which especially, if not specifically, honours the senior most DoscOs. After all, as we all know, it was their last assembly as a batch.

Furthermore, I see absolutely no point in presenting awards which can be distributed at a later date, or, re-awarding prizes which have already been awarded in different school assemblies. If the number of awards could be condensed, then the quality of the Prize Giving Ceremony would definitely be better. Maybe, some of the cups and trophies

could be distributed during Special Assembly, or maybe the number of trophies could simply be reduced. Because by the time the Ceremony enters the final phase, all the enthusiasm has perished.

Personally, I felt deeply touched when the Leavers went on stage during the School Choir's rendition of *Auld Lang Syne*. It was truly beautiful. Throughout the ceremony I was continuously looking for moments such as these, but unfortunately, found very few.

THE WEEK GONE BY

Utkarsh Jha

The week gone by saw the rather holy and happy demise of test week. Although we, as elated students, have managed to beat and bash Test Week into a hurried retreat, its ghosts and ghouls continue to linger within the confines of Chandbagh. Hopefully, these spirits do not pounce on me in their manifestations as bad marks, terrible report cards and angry phone calls from parents. Also, worth mentioning is the fact that the Test Week's villainous bigger brother, 'Boards', is also on its death bed, and the doctors at the Wellness Centre claim that 'Boards' has only a few days to live. May it rest in peace. Of course the demise of boards also marks the beginning of many scrambles. Firstly, it marks the scramble of the ATs to their homes, where they will spend two weeks (how I envy them). Also, the week will bear witness to SCs scrambling into their new found territories, a.k.a, their studies and rooms. Therefore, please do not be surprised if you see a sudden surge in the number of posters being bought from a particular online store! The Sc Formers are the answer.

Also of importance this Week Gone By is the mysterious surge that India Post has seen in letters to far off lands like Timbuktu and Narnia. I am not sure how the postal service intends to open a post office in Narnia, however, I am sure that the people behind these letters will surely win *that* award. (If this paragraph was too cryptic, I recommend you start participating in a few MUNs).

In brief, the week gone by was not the most exhilarating, neither was it the most boring. It was just another *normal week* (a term which I use with a lot of trepidation) which propels us closer to midterms, to trials and beyond!



Around the world in 80 Words

While the Sudanese Government is planning to teach its judges how to amputate criminals, since their doctors refuse to do so, closer home, 12 people were killed and 32 injured in a car bombing in Pakistan. A Greek footballer has been banned after celebrating a goal with a fascist salute. The Indian Government's efforts have finally paid off with the Italian government giving assurances that the marines charged with the murder of two Indian fishermen will be sent to India.

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