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## Media Matters



**The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Do you think that politicians today are as corrupt as portrayed by the media?**

**Ajoy Bose (AJB):** Not really. There is a tendency to demonise Indian politicians to seem the most corrupt politicians in the world. Often, Indian politicians are actually not as corrupt as politicians in the United States of America. Take Richard Cheney, who played one of the biggest roles in the war between Iraq and the USA, due to contacts with some oil-producing firms in the Gulf. No Indian politician would want to foment a war for any reason, not even money. The media, especially the electronic media, makes politicians first look corrupt, and then portrays them to be fools, simply using them to attract greater viewership.

**DSW: If the media tends to demonise politicians, then why is it that politicians such as Rahul Gandhi and Omar Abdullah have been popularised so much?**

**AJB:** It is all an image-building exercise. Sometimes the television popularises someone it thinks might look good. Our media plays around a lot with stereotypical material. I am not saying that Gandhi is good or bad, but we should not let the media get away with what it chooses to provide us. What I am trying to say is that we need our balance back. Newspapers like *The Guardian* are more sober and they contain much more analysis and true stories which Indian newspapers like *The Times of India* (which is somewhat like *The Guardian*) do not have.

**DSW: What are the underlying differences between the Western and the Indian media?**

**AJB:** There is a conceptual difference. The main problems arising here are the lenient laws, due to which the media gets away with incorrect facts and figures. The media often makes a statement, only to later realise that it is factually wrong. And a few hours later, they alter what they had previously said, and shockingly enough, get away with it. I myself remember shouting at one of the correspondents every morning on his faulty facts. Unfortunately, the Indian media is subject to this. Also, most Western

*Excerpts from the the Weekly's interview with Ajoy Bose, an eminent journalist*

newspapers would choose prestige over money, never having a front page of advertisements, something that is often happening in popular newspapers today.

**DSW: Do you think that our politicians and media are similar to American politicians and media?**

**AJB:** The point is that we cannot compare ourselves to Obama. McCain accused Obama of being a terrorist, and in India no one would do anything of that sort. We are different from them and we cannot change it. Let me tell you a short story. I was on a flight coming to Delhi from abroad with many passengers on the flight. When our flight landed, there was a shortage of buses which would take us to the terminal. In the beginning we waited for twenty minutes and the foreigners who were standing in front of the line were pushed aside by the Indians, who went in. After another twenty minutes another bus came and the same thing happened. The third time the bus arrived, the foreigners were not ready to let the Indians be, so the bigger ones pushed their way and got onto the bus with them. I hope you understand what I am trying to hint at: we are very different from Americans.

**DSW: What is the greatest challenge you face as a journalist?**

**AJB:** For me the greatest challenge is to get everyone to make sure that their facts are correct. Today, a journalist has a lot of power. The main aspect that the newspapers need to cover is what is going wrong in the world. That should be their primary function, which they seem to be neglecting. Newspapers should also be a forum for people to write. If they do not answer questions, it is all right, but what they need to do is to raise the right questions (*Ed: I hope the Weekly readers have made a note of this!*). These days, journalists are not even willing to investigate, so what they publish reveals a lack of investigation.

**DSW: Do you think that the internet and blogs have added a third dimension to the media?**

**AJB:** The internet is amazing and has definitely brought about a change to our lives. The internet is replacing the print media. Most of the information I collect is from the internet these days and not the newspapers. For example, *The Guardian* sells a lot more on the internet.

**DSW: What are your views on journalism as a profession?**

**AJB:** The first word that comes to my mind when I think about my profession is 'hectic'. Journalism is definitely very hectic. Your whole day is entirely consumed; you don't get to spend time with your family, watch a play (that is what I miss most these days), or do some work which is not related to your job. You hardly get any time for yourself as you need to bring out the newspaper every day, and it is a rather tough task.

## APPOINTMENTS

The following are the appointments for the various STAs, SUPWs, publications and societies for the forthcoming year:

Anmol Joshi and Varun Srivastav have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **Stage Committee**.

Jayavardhan Singh has been re-appointed Boy-in-Charge of the **Implement Store**.

Arjun Kapur and Amarinder Sodhi have been appointed Boys-in-Charge of the **Science Society and Nature Club**.

Aashray Patel and Amit Gupta have been appointed **Secretaries** of the **Historical Circle Society**.

Govind Singh has been appointed **Boy-in-Charge**, Arnav Sahu has been appointed **Secretary General** and Pranjali Singh has been appointed the **Head of Media and Organisation** of the **Model United Nations**.

Arjun has been appointed **Boy-in-Charge** of the **Electronics STA**.

We wish all of them fruitful tenures.

## PRIZES

The following are the results of the **English Literary Society Poetry Writing Competition, 2008**:

**1st:** Dhruv Velloor

**2nd:** Narinder Kapur

The following are the various **Design and Technology Prizes** this year:

### C Form

#### Metal-work:

**1st:** Arjun Midha

**2nd:** Uday Lakhanpal

**3rd:** Gaurav Garg

#### Wood-work:

**1st:** Shivank Singh

**2nd:** Jaskrit Singh

**3rd:** Naman Mehrotra

### D Form

#### Metal-work:

**1st:** Himanshu Poddar

**2nd:** Chirag Mittal

**3rd:** Jai Singh Sardana

#### Wood-work:

**1st:** Madhav Dutt

**2nd:** Shivan Seth

**3rd:** Shikha Kothari

**STA Prize:** Sanchit Thakral, Vinayak Agarwal and Saransh Seth

**Ishwar Chand Memorial Trophy for the Best Carpenter of the Year:** Arvind Sharma

**Kandhari Lall Memorial Trophy for the Best Metal-worker:** Tejasvi Mathur

Vishesh Kochher was awarded the **Sunil Rawley Prize for the Most Promising Swimmer** of the year.

The following have been awarded the **Certificate of Merit for the German Language in D Form**:

**1st:** Namanshree Jain

**2nd:** Ritesh Popat Shinde

Congratulations!

## CPR AWARDS

The following are the results of the **Inter-House First Aid Competition, 2008**:

**1st:** Tata House

**2nd:** Kashmir House

**3rd:** Oberoi House

**4th:** Jaipur House

**5th:** Hyderabad House

Saurav Mediratta was adjudged the **Best First-Aider**.

Well done!

## COLOURS

Anindya Vasudev has been awarded **Debating Colours**.

Anindya Vasudev and Vikram Aditya Chaudhri have been awarded the newly-instituted **Dramatics Colours**.

The following boys have been awarded Colours for **Basketball**:

### Half Colours

Aseem Kumar

Shivam Nagalia

### Full Colours

Ayyappa Vemulkar

Pranav Kapoor (Re-awarded)

Rishabh Bir Singh (Re-awarded)

**Rishabh Bir Singh** has been awarded Full Colours for a record **four** times.

The following boys have been awarded colours for **Table-Tennis**:

### Half Colours

Abhishek Jain

Devansh Khaitan

Congratulations!

### Full Colours

Ashutosh Kejriwal

Amit Gupta (Re-awarded)

## INTERNATIONALLY AWARDED

Akshay Sharan has been awarded the **Bronze standard** of the IAYP.

Vishnukaant Pitty has been awarded the **IAYP Blazer** for having successfully completed the Bronze, Silver and Gold standards of the IAYP. Congratulations!

## GOING 'BADDY'

The Junior Badminton team comprising of Arjun Khaitan, Abhishek Parasrampur, Vidit Sidana and Siddharth Sethi participated in the **Inter-School Junior Councils' Badminton Tournament** held at Cambrian Hall from November 5th to 8th. The team won the tournament, beating St. Joseph's Academy in the Finals. Well done!



**doonspeak**

President Obama...

...is a messiah. – **Arjun Mahajan**

...the audacity of hope. – **Govind Singh**

...lives the American dream. – **Arjun Kapur**

...So??? - **Karmanya Malhotra**

...President of the millennium. – **B. Dinesh Reddy**

...is the dawn after a long night. – **Devansh Khaitan**

...someone good for India. – **Akshat Kumar**



## Opinion Poll

Do you think that the School has been too cautious in trying to curb the spread of typhoid?



**Yes 92%**

**No 8%**



(324 members of the school community were polled)

## Founder's Day Address, 2008: Lord Chris Patten – The Chief Guest

Chairman, Headmaster, ladies and gentlemen: first of all, I'd like to thank both the Headmaster and Chairman for the very kind things you've said about me, which my father would have much enjoyed, and which my mother would have believed.

There's a story about the old Duke of Norfolk, who was always described in the press as the 'premier English duke'. He was sitting at his home, Arundel Castle, just south of London in Sussex, opening his post one Saturday morning, opening letters with his butter knife and came across a letter from a group of parents of girls, in Zimbabwe, who were deeply dissatisfied by the kind of education which their daughters were receiving. They wanted to start a new, independent school, and they wanted to call it after the Duke's home, Arundel. They asked the Duke for permission and they asked him if they could also use his family motto as the motto for their daughters' school. And the Duke replied to say how honoured he was that they wanted to call their school Arundel, after his home. But he thought that they might wish to think again about using his family motto for their daughters' school since, roughly translated from the Latin, it read 'Pregnant with Honour'. I feel, and maybe even look, pregnant with honour today.

The honour of being asked to address this great gathering at The Doon School, looking through the list of alumni, I know that it has produced leaders of politics, public service and diplomacy, leaders of India in the arts and literature and, as I was able to see last night, some of the greatest dancers in Asia. John Travolta would have been extremely envious! So I'm delighted to be here. It is a very considerable honour. I told the prefects here this afternoon, when we were having our photograph taken, that I would try to be brief and challenge them to run a book on how long the Chief Guest would speak for, so I'd better try to be as good as my word.

I was wondering yesterday afternoon what I should talk about. It's perhaps a little unseemly for a foreign visitor to talk too much about your own country or your place in the world. But we fell over tea to talking about manners; some of the governors and the Headmaster and I, and I thought that wasn't a bad place to start, and I hope your spirits won't sink at the prospect of that.

Going around the art exhibition this morning, I asked the Secretary of the Arts Club who his favourite painter was. And he said that his favourite painter was the Spanish surrealist, Salvador Dali. My favourite painter was another Spaniard who was painting three centuries before. The painter was Velasquez of whom Picasso wrote, that after Velasquez, there was nothing new to learn of painting. And my favourite of Velasquez' paintings, is one called 'The Surrender at Breda' or more popularly, 'The Lancer', because many of the characters, the soldiers in the painting, are carrying huge lances so large that the painting, originally, had to be folded so it could be accommodated in the Royal Apartment. This painting depicts one of the most famous scenes in Spanish 17th century history and hangs in the great Prado gallery in Madrid. It shows one scene from one of the wars in which Spain was seeking to establish dominion over The Netherlands, and in the scene, the Spanish general, actually an Italian mercenary, is acknowledging that he has defeated his

Dutch opponent, and he is receiving the keys to the city of Breda after a long siege, but doing so with enormous dignity and respect, trying to stop the Dutch general who was opposing him from kneeling in front of the man who vanquished him.

It is a painting about a virtue which the Headmaster mentioned in his prayer at the beginning: purging your heart of grudges. It's a painting about magnanimity. Magnanimity is a word that comes from two Latin words, meaning 'great spirit' or 'great soul'. And that, in turn, comes from a word from Aristotle, Plato's greatest disciple, and the man who more than any other shaped the European mind; a phrase of Aristotle's: 'megalopsychosis', which means again, quite literally, 'great souled', in the way that you would say Gandhi was great-souled or great-spirited. But it's usually translated in most of Aristotle's works as the English word 'gentleman'; not great-spirited or great-souled, but gentleman.

Now, that doesn't mean gentleman in the sense of social caste, not gentleman as opposed to commoner. Not the sort of gentleman that Mr. Holdsworth was when he played cricket. When I used to go to county cricket matches in England up till the 1960s, the gentlemen, the amateurs, like Mr. Holdsworth, used to use a different changing room from the professionals, the so-called players. Indeed, at Lord's, which used to be regarded as the headquarters of cricket until 20-20; at Lord's the gentlemen used to come out of a different gate from the players. But that's not what's meant by gentleman in Aristotle.

What is meant is what we would call, in colloquial English, 'a real gent'. And what's a real gent? A real gent is someone who knows that in a world of terrible civil conflict and wounding social inequality and deprivation, that every individual needs a basis for morality, and the best place to start is manners. I don't mean by manners; etiquette, though that's not unimportant; the things I was taught as a boy, to let women go into a room ahead of you, to open the car door for a woman, to be courteous to people who were older than you even if you thought they were fools, to be restrained on the playing field – I was once at school dropped from the first cricket team; mind you, I was always right and the umpire was always wrong.

But we don't mean that sort of manners. A real gent knows the middle way, knows the importance of bravery as opposed to on the one side brashness, or on the other side, cowardice. A real gent knows the importance of generosity as opposed to meanness on the one side and profligacy on the other. A real gent, a gentleman, can be rich and educated, or poor and uneducated. And the real gent who is well-off and educated knows very well that he isn't better than someone who is poor and uneducated, but that he owes those who are less fortunate than he or she is himself, every chance to develop themselves as far as they possibly can, and to have some of the chances which he or she has had in life. That's what it means to be a gentleman or a real gent, which brings me to the second point I wanted to make. When I was a small boy, one of the first books that I read was about Captain Scott, the great explorer of the Antarctic before the First World War.

*(contd. overleaf)*

This boy was talking to me this morning about how much he liked PG Wodehouse novels. "Great Scot!", characters in PG Wodehouse say, which is a reference to the great, iconic hero of the 1910s and 1920s. Scott wasn't a national hero because he succeeded. He failed, terribly. He was in a race, against a Norwegian, Amundsen, to reach the South Pole – and Amundsen won by weeks. Scott eventually got to the South Pole, but on the way back, he and his whole team died, starving, frozen to death (some of you know from your expeditions and mountaineering just how fierce the cold can be). Frozen to death, buried in a shroud of snow.

But when they found Captain Scott, they discovered he'd kept a diary, and it was a diary, copies of which were found in many of the haversacks of soldiers, including Indian officers, who fought in the terrible Gethsemane of the First World War. Captain Scott was a hero who was brave, who, it was clear from his diaries, thought first of all about the welfare of the men for whom he was responsible, and who never showed an iota of self-pity, even as the snow closed in, and he and his men heard the Last Trump.

This brings me to a point which it may not be popular to make at an occasion like this. Scott was not a hero because he succeeded, and success in life (worldly success) is not enough. It's a great thing to win all the prizes, and it's a very laudable thing, it's something which you can be legitimately proud of, but it's not enough. It's not enough to go to the best schools; to go to the best universities; to join the best banks, if they still exist; to join the best consultancies; to work in the best multi-nationals; always to fly the world First Class. Those things are fine, and they're doubtless marks of tremendous hard work and endeavour and imagination. But they're not, themselves, enough. Success in life is above all, about contributing more to the world than you get out of it, and more, above all, to your own society.

The most extraordinary gathering like this that I've ever attended was in Africa. I was Britain's Overseas Development Minister. I'd flown to Ethiopia to help organise the relief efforts during one of the all-too-frequent periods of famine in Ethiopia. But while we were there, I was asked if I would also fly down to the south-west of the country, where there were camps for Sudanese refugees from a war which was, even then, taking place between the north and the south of Sudan.

Now you had to be pretty desperate to trek across southern Sudan to get to a safe haven in Ethiopia. But most of the people in the camp that I visited were young men and young boys who had left their towns and villages in the south of Sudan, and trekked for days or weeks across the parched plains to get eventually to the Nile and cross into Ethiopia, to get away from marauding crowds of soldiers and mercenaries from the north.

Typically, these groups of boys and young men had come in school groups, old boys and classes of current students; about forty percent of them had died on the journey, burnt under the relentless Sudanese sky, eating bark and twigs and bits of grass where they could find them. I talked to one group of boys, aged about 15, who'd been led for three weeks across southern Sudan by a 17-year old. And I said to the boy who'd led the group, "How on earth did you find your way to Ethiopia?" And he said very matter-of-factly, "It was very easy. We just followed the bodies". There were about 12,000 boys in this camp, and I'd been given, as we flew down,

some footballs by the British Council to give them. And I got up and I made a little speech, and I kicked some balls into a big crowd drawn up around me. And their Headmaster, who was a pastor, said to me, "Could we say thank you by singing a song or something from the Bible in our own language of Dinka?" And I said that's wonderful. And they sang and ululated for me and I said at the end to the pastor, "What were you singing?" And he said that they were singing from Messiah, Chapter 9, Verse 6.

I thought as I flew back to Addis Ababa that they must have been singing a very famous text from the Christian Bible about beating swords into ploughshares. When I got back that night to the Ambassador's handsome bungalow on the hills above Addis Ababa, and we had dinner, and I went to bed, I found a glass of whiskey, sat up in bed to read my book, the fan twisting above my head, I suddenly saw next to me on my bedside table a copy of what is called 'Gideon's Bible'. And I picked it up and I leafed through just to check if I'd been right about what these young boys had been singing to me, and I found Chapter 9 and I found that what they'd been singing was a different text, a text that is very often used in Christian services before Christmas, 'The Messiah, the Great Prophet': "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who lived in the land of the shadow of death, on them the light has shined." Those were boys, who at 15, 16 or 17 had certainly lived in the land of the shadow of death. They hadn't lived in the light.

All of you have had the huge good fortune, with the support of your parents, with these wonderful teachers. You've had the good fortune to live in the light. And that puts on you a tremendous responsibility; the responsibility, as I said earlier, to put more back into society. The responsibility to ensure that in the future, the India that will help to shape the 21st century is an India which shows the rest of the world how to deal with the problems of social disadvantage which plague us all. What you can do is to show the world how a plural society, how a society that believes in freedom, how a democracy can bind up its wounds not least by ensuring that it has a strong state, not a weak and divided state, a state that can provide leaders for India's greatness and ladders of opportunity for all Indian citizens. You'll have to be the leaders of that India, active citizens in showing the world how these things can be done. The rest of the world needs that sort of India.

There isn't a country in the world with an Indian diaspora where that diaspora isn't hugely successful, and that is good for any country lucky enough to have an Indian community. I know that in Oxford. I know that in England where our health service simply wouldn't operate were it not for the Indian doctors and consultants and professors, who provide the cutting edge for much of our medical services. So, we celebrate those Indian diasporas around the world. But what the world and what the 21st century most wants and most needs, is an India which is successful in India. That's what's wanted. And an India which has politicians and leaders who understand that and with your help as active citizens and, I hope, some of you with your leadership as politicians, an India that's capable of doing that.

It's a great pleasure to be here with the gentlemen of India; with the real gents of The Doon School; brave and resourceful, I'm sure; generous and committed, I'm sure as well; young men and women who I hope will be the lights that ensure that India shines.

# Where they are... – PLACEMENTS 2008

*Due to a printing error, the Placements list published in the Founder's Day Edition (Issue no. 2200) had incorrect alignment. The Weekly regrets the fault and reprints the Placements for the Batch of 2008*

Ankit Durga	College of Business Studies, Delhi University	B.B.S.
Aryaman Sengar	College of Business Studies, Delhi University	B.F.I.A.
Mehul Goyal	College of Business Studies, Delhi University	B.F.I.A.
Tanveer Angad Singh	College of Business Studies, Delhi University	B.B.S.
Chinmay Sharma	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A.(H) English
Gaurav Sood	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A.(H) Eco
Naman Goel	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A.(H) Maths
Shikhar Singh	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A. (H) Hist
Skand Goel	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A. (H) Eco
Vivaan Asad Shah	St Stephen's, Delhi University	B.A.
Nikunj Nagalia	SRCC, Delhi University	B.Com (H)
Vidit Narain	SRCC, Delhi University	B.Com (H)
Arpit Panjwani	SRCC, Delhi University	B.Com Hons
Pranay Kapoor	Hansraj College, Delhi University	B.Com (H)
Rohit Khandelwal	Hansraj College, Delhi University	B.A.(H) Maths
Dilsher Khanna	Hansraj College, Delhi University	B.Com (H)
Eshaan Tiwary	Ramjas College, Delhi University	B.A.(H) History
Madhav Chandna	Ramjas College, Delhi University	B.A.(H) English
Dhruv Gupta	Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi University	B.A.(H) Maths
Swapnil Dhar	Delhi College of Engineering	Engineering
Eshaan Puri	BITS, Pilani	Engineering
Ashwin Bhaskar	RV College of Engineering, Bangalore	Engineering
Shivam Saluja	Manipal University, Manipal	Engineering
Tushar Raturi	SRM University, Chennai	Engineering
Surya Narayan Deo	Kolhapur Engineering College	Engineering
Prannay Shah	LLR College of Comm. & Eco., Mumbai	B.M.S.
Deeptanshu Thakur	Jai Hind College, Mumbai	B.A. Economics
Sachin Uppal	St. Xavier's, Mumbai	B.M.S.
Rituraj Raizada	Narsee Monjee College of Comm. & Eco.	B.M.S.
Anirudh Narain Singh	HR College of Comm. & Eco., Mumbai	B.Com (H)
Udai Singh	Symbiosis Law College, Pune	Law
Pranav Matta	Commercial Aviation, Bangalore	Comm Aviation
Samaay S. Mangalagiri	PESIT, Bangalore	Bio-Technology
Kaustabh Verma	National Law School, Bhopal	Law
Arashdeep Singh	DAV College, Chandigarh	B.B.A.
Pulkit Sharma	Institute of Hotel Mgmt, Taj Aurangabad	B.A.(H)
Anant Shiv Johri	Kasturba Medical College, Manipal	M.B.B.S.
Rohan Mehra	Guru Ram Rai Medical College, Dehradun	M.B.B.S.
Aditya Vikram Dhirani	Claremont McKenna College	Economics
Akrit Singh Soin	Southern Methodist University, Dallas	B.B.A.
Anirudh Kapur	University of Southern California	B.B.A.
Ashish Mitter	Yale University	Eco & Pol. Sc
Chitwanjot Singh	Boston University	B.B.A.
Angad Singh	University of California, Los Angeles	Engineering
Ramakrishna Pappu	Stern School of Business, NYU	B.B.A.
Sharad Gopal	Georgia Institute of Technology	Engineering
Shashank Mittal	School of Visual Arts, New York	Art
Suhaas Khullar	Purdue University	Elec & Eng
Yadavalli Venkat Aditya	Ohio State University	Engineering
Dilshad Singh Sidhu	Babson College	B.B.A.
Harsh Mall	Syracuse University	Comm. & Rhetorical Studies
Shrivats Chandra	Singapore Management University	B.B.A.
Rohan Gupta	Singapore Management University	B.B.A.
Anant K. Jangwal	University of Toronto, Canada	B.B.A.
Keshav Krishna Kapur	McGill University, Canada	B.B.A.
Jagabir Ningthoujam	Brock University, Canada	Geo & Film Studies
Seif Khan	University of Wollongong, Dubai	B.Comm

| Viewpoint |

# Being a *Servant*

*Vivek Santayana dispels the notion that working for the Weekly amounts to slavery*

“Servant!” “*Weekly naukar!*” These are some of the derogatory remarks that our peers hurl at us. Let me tell you, being a servant is a fulltime job. To most people, being a servant for the *Weekly* isn’t worth having your name in print. Maybe that’s why *Weekly* guys are ‘pasted’ the most; we work eight days a week for something that isn’t worth it. It is high time we dismissed this notion.

Firstly, we work too hard. Yes, we do. We’re supposed to. The *Weekly* doesn’t produce itself. It takes a competent Board and it takes a lot of work. We’re more than Page 2 (and its Unquotes); if only people would care to read the rest. We proofread it, unfortunately. We read the whole *Weekly* more times than the number of pages it contains. Also, we have to publish it, whether it has readers or it doesn’t. It’s our ‘job’ to do so, our duty. Besides, we have a seventy-two-year-old reputation at stake. We work and we deliver, not only to the School community, Old Boys, parents and the (interested) world, but to our own intentions. We definitely don’t print it for those who don’t like it (and I don’t mean those

If we cannot come out during breakfast on Saturday, we are asked what happened. If we come out with a *Holi* special or a ten, twelve or fifty pager, we are not appreciated. People take the *Weekly* for granted.

with constructive criticism).

Secondly, there is no ‘incentive’. So what if forty-five boys had appeared for the Entrance Test for the *Weekly*? If there is no incentive for working (except for half a point for your Scholar’s Blazer), why do so many want to join? Well, simply because we are the *Weekly*, we are a registered student-run paper. It is a demanding activity, but it has its rewards: the pride of being a member of the Editorial Board, the honour of being a *servant*, because we *servants* have chosen to be the School’s voice. We don’t work for the privileges or the perks (are there any?!). We work because it is mutually beneficial. We benefit from the *Weekly* and the *Weekly* runs on our hard work. If you don’t believe me, look at the Honour Board of the Editors-in-Chief (incidentally, we are the only school publication to have an Honour Board) and count the names of the famous writers on it. Look into the archives and read their writing. We may not be as good as they are, but we will be if we work hard enough. There’s no two ways about hard work.

Also, people have convinced themselves that members of the Editorial Boards do not enjoy their lives in School.



Unfortunately for them, we enjoy what we do, though it is, at times, a sacrifice. At times, everyone prefers passing the buck. A publication *does* run on a hierarchy. But at every level, there are certain responsibilities assigned, each of which teaches you skills that stand you in good stead, when you reach the seniormost level. You cannot expect a C former to proof-read a Founder’s Day issue. You can’t expect a C former to respond to a Letter to the Editor. And we definitely won’t be asking a C former to interview Mr. Rahul Gandhi. They have to go through the grind of doing the leg-work. But that is pretty much what the job of a junior is, both in School, and in a publication. Also, when you work, you don’t do anyone a favour. You work for the publication and you work for yourself. Jamming work is out of the question.

The *Weekly* comes out during Trials and Test Weeks. There definitely is work involved. But we don’t spend our whole day in the *Weekly* room. We divide the schedule and we finish the issue off. We keep an article ‘bank’. It is a flawed assumption that our studies suffer greatly because of the publications we are involved with. Honestly, if they do, it’s because we fail to manage our time efficiently.

In the end, we are called ‘servants’ by those to whom our passion and dedication is incomprehensible. And dare we add that there is also a touch of envy involved? Incidentally, those who ‘paste’ us are those who appear for the Entrance Test and come up with countless suggestions to help us improve. They are willing to devote their time to the *Weekly*. If we cannot come out during breakfast on Saturday or fail to publish an article, we are asked what happened. If we come out with a *Holi* special or a ten, twelve or fifty pager, we are not appreciated. People take the *Weekly* for granted. There is a lot more to the *Weekly* than being a *servant*. The outgoing members and the Old Boys who worked on the publication all say that the *Weekly* was, perhaps, the most memorable part of their lives in School. Some things are worth enduring insults for. Ask any Board member, and you’ll find out.

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

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