A Pointless Piece Or:

How The Kids Learned to Stop Worrying and Blow Each Other Up

Varen Talwar

Initially, I was thinking of writing on the ill effects of human activities on our environment and how we are in big trouble. However, I was told that this effort would turn out to be a pointless piece, considering the type of readership it would receive. Honestly speaking though, I couldn't think of anything pointless in telling the 'future leaders of meritocratic India' that the future they were about to lead held, for them, some of the greatest challenges ever faced by mankind.

However, after pondering over a while, I realised that it was, in fact, pretty futile! The issues I would talk about had already been discussed in various media, and yet people hadn't got serious, so how would my piece change anything? The space could instead be allotted to some economics or political affairs article by somebody who probably doesn't even fully understand the subject, right? That would at least be more helpful than alerting the future decision makers that they and their children are probably going to die a horrible death if they don't do anything about it, wouldn't it?

So instead, let me just tell you a harmless little story……

Part I - The Human Race or:
The Candies and the Kids

Once upon a time, there was a giant room full of kids. One day, a kid stood at the centre of the room and announced his discovery - candies. He had discovered that if you dug into the walls and the floor, you would find such heavenly eatables. He distributed them around the room, and the room went crazy with delight. When they asked for more, the kid said that with the help of some selected kids, he would go on extracting more candies and 'sell' them for a millimeter of the ceiling.

Soon, there was frenzy in the room, with everyone either digging the walls and the floor, or breaking away pieces of their vast ceiling. Not long after, trading began and both sides were happy as they had gotten what they wanted; and nobody was even remotely concerned about the mutilated state of their room. They were all very happy……

Until one day when there was a great battle between the leading sellers of candies for supreme control over their market. The battle escalated rapidly as candies had become an integral part of their lives! After a bloody fight, peace was reached as the room was divided into many groups. Each group had a territory in the room, and had to make do with the resources present in it.

However, their greed for more candies did not let peace prevail for long. There were frequent battles for gaining territory, because more territory meant more candies! There were frequent skirmishes inside these groups also, because everybody wanted to be in control of the candies. It all had suddenly changed into a very ugly business……

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Part II - Meanwhile or:
The Bomb

While everybody was busy in their pursuit for candies, there was an old kid, who was uninterested in this candy business. His real passion was the room he had lived in for all his life and it pained him to see it broken and ignored. Every morning, he would dutifully clean his part of the devastated wall and floor.

One day, while cleaning the depths of the floor, his leg suddenly broke through the surface and dangled in the world beyond! Slowly, he retrieved his leg back, and very cautiously looked through the hole. Kids had explored the roof a few times, but no one had ever dared to go below, so he was very curious about what lay there.

He saw a flame in the spot directly below him - where some of the debris had fallen. It was (Continued on Page 3)
**Around the World in 80 Words**

In retaliation to the rockets fired by the Hamas extremist group, Israel ordered air strikes on Gaza which killed three Palestinians. Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Muthuvel Karunanidhi died at the age of 94, and was buried at Marina Beach with thousands of civilians attending the funeral. Two successive earthquakes of magnitudes 6.2 and 6.9 hit Indonesia’s Lombok Island, killing about 130 people. Belgian goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois signed a six-year deal with FC Real Madrid after seven years with Chelsea.

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**THE SCIENCE OF CINEMA**

Sudhir Chowdhry, Armaan Rathi, Kartik Rathore and Nand Dahiya represented School at the Silver Fiesta Movie Appreciation Festival held at the Kasiga School. School was declared the Best Team of the contest and was awarded the winner’s trophy.

Well done!

**FIELD MARSHALLS**

The following are the **PT Leaders** for 2018-19:

**School PT Leader:** Sanjum Dhaliwal

- **Hyderabad**
  - Arjun Bajwa
  - Adhiraj Palaitha
  - Pradyut Narain

- **Tata**
  - Nandil Sarma
  - Samarth Mehra
  - Naman Kejriwal

- **Jaipur**
  - Sidhant Shyam
  - Shiv Sharma
  - Janak Prajapati

- **Kashmir**
  - Manan Agarwal
  - Mehaa Pannu
  - Armaan Thapar

- **Oberoi**
  - Angad Sanghera
  - Konark Malhotra
  - Harshit Agarwal

- **Jaipur**

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

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“It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation.”

— Herman Melville

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**DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

The following have completed the Bronze and Silver standard of the IAYP:

- **Silver**
  - Pradyut Narain
  - Aditya Goel
  - Aditya Singhee
  - Nikunj Bansal
  - Konark Malhotra
  - Sanjum Dhaliwal

- **Bronze**
  - Aryaman Khosla
  - Amulya Agarwal

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**POLITICALLY PROFICIENT**

A delegation of thirteen boys represented School at the Oakridge Model United Nations Conference from July 20-22.

The following were the results:

- **Best Delegates:** Samarth Mehra and Yashasvi Jain
- **Most Outstanding Delegates:** Karthik Subbiah and Shourya Agarwal
- **Honourable Mentions:** Rishabraj Verma and Vikram Jain
- **Special Mentions:** Aryan Gupta and Dhanvi Shukla

**Case Competition:** Karthik Subbiah

Kudos!

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**Around the World in 80 Words**

In retaliation to the rockets fired by the Hamas extremist group, Israel ordered air strikes on Gaza which killed three Palestinians. Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Muthuvel Karunanidhi died at the age of 94, and was buried at Marina Beach with thousands of civilians attending the funeral. Two successive earthquakes of magnitudes 6.2 and 6.9 hit Indonesia’s Lombok Island, killing about 130 people. Belgian goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois signed a six-year deal with FC Real Madrid after seven years with Chelsea.
UNDER THE SCANNER

National Register of Citizens | Jaiveer Misra

The National Register of Citizens (NRC) was first prepared in 1951 and is a list of every legal citizen in India. Following this, the by-elections held in Assam during 1978 saw a marked increase in the number of registered voters which sparked an agitation over foreign nationals, mostly those from Bangladesh, who had settled in the state illegally. The uprising that resulted inflicted heavy damage on the state as many lives were lost. After six years of agitation, led by the All Assam Students Union in 1985, the Assam Accord was signed. The accord stated that people who could prove that they or their ancestors entered Assam before March 24, 1971, when neighbouring Bangladesh declared independence, would be deemed Indian Citizens.

The second and final draft of the NRC was published on the 30th of July in Guwahati. Of the 32.9 million people who applied to prove their Indian citizenship, 28.9 qualified, leaving out approximately 4 million people from the final draft. This has sparked a contentious debate among leading political parties with the BJP stating the Congress favours illegal immigrants, while the Congress has in turn stated that the BJP believes in an insensitive political approach. While this is not a final list, and those left out will have opportunities to assert their Indian citizenship, the Supreme Court has directed the central government not to take any coercive action against people who do not feature on the NRC list. Following the final NRC draft, the UN has now expressed its grave concern over the status of ethnic minorities. The global body has also requested India to adhere to international human rights laws and standards without violating the rights of those who are not included in the NRC, as there is a lack of clarity as to what steps will be taken in this regard. They have also expressed apprehension over the “statelessness” of those not included in the list and have asked the government to provide details so that the minorities face no discrimination within the framework of the NRC.

While leading political parties engage in a fierce war of words, the question really is: what does the future hold for the millions who find themselves stateless, many of whom are women, children and the elderly? Since there is no official bi-lateral accord between the two nations for India to deport Bangladeshi foreigners, what is to become of them? This is where they have family, cultural ties and, more importantly, a livelihood. Will they tragically find themselves without an identity, an uncertain future and, most importantly, a home overnight?

[Continued from Page 1]

very violent, but it subsided soon. However, when he looked further, he gasped with horror! There were millions of inflammable red patches spread out as far as he could see. As small pieces of the floor fell onto the patches, they sent out violent, but short-lived flames.

He then realised that the little community of kids was hovering over a huge bomb, and the kids were doing everything in their power to blow it.

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The End or: How the Kids Learned to Stop Worrying and Blow Each Other Up

Part III - The Other Bombs or: A Monopoly over Candies

One day, a kid scientist invented a bomb that could destroy the entire room in a jiffy. Not long after, another scientist of the neighbouring province came up with one that could blow up the room two times over. Eventually, a kid built one that could do it ten times over!

There was also this crazy old kid, shouting all over that they were all hanging over another bomb, which was more destructive than anything they could ever build. He said that if they continued their incessant mining, it would explode; but obviously, nobody took him seriously. After all, they had to stop worrying about extinction if they wanted to focus on candies!

So, each day, an army of kids would stand guard on the borders of their provinces, with bombs ready for firing. They weren’t sure why, but they knew that it had something to do with a monopoly over candies; and mind you, they could do anything for that, including blowing themselves up ten times over. Of course, they were too blind to notice that in their race for a monopoly over candy, candy had monopolized over them.

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The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What led to your decision of becoming a professor and working with Cambridge?

Prof. Bhaskar Vira (BHV): When I was in School I didn’t have any long-term career plans. I was just taking it one step at a time but I always did enjoy studying economics. By the time I was doing my BA I knew that this was what I wanted to do in my graduate degree. Towards the end of my Ph.D., about 6 years after schooling, I started teaching at University. I was at Cambridge doing my Ph.D. and they had these tutorial classes where you got to teach a small group of students. So Cambridge asked me to help them out. This was my first opportunity to engage with students in the capacity of a teacher. I enjoyed it a lot. I found that it was a great way of expressing my thoughts and engaging with some bright young minds. This made me realize that this is something which interests me. Once I finished my Ph.D., I did a research job, which involved a bit of teaching. By then I was quite sure teaching is something I would want to pursue as a career. I was lucky that when I applied to Cambridge, I got in. In the end I think the key thing is that, I really enjoy engaging with young minds and helping them foster their creativity. I find it very rewarding.

DSW: Being a professor, could you comment on what it is like to be a part of and to work in the field of academics?

BHV: A life as an academic contains three things; teaching, research, and contributing to society. It's quite interesting these days because the demands in academics are changing. Obviously one of the demands of being an undergraduate academic teacher is to teach students fresh out of school and help them pick the subjects they are interested in. An essential part of being a teacher is to nurture and help students grow into rational and mature adults. We take them from school and then, often, prepare them for careers. Increasingly now, academics are expected to play a large role in research work. We are having many breakthroughs in sciences, technology, social sciences etc. A lot of work is done in your specific field, which could mean writing papers, books, producing research in basic terms and contributing to global knowledge as a whole. These days what people expect of academics is to contribute to the public. It’s an expectation in countries like the UK, where the universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, are publicly funded. What they expect is that if you are getting publicly funded, you should be contributing to the common good. It becomes a public obligation. Universities are also expected to now have an impact on change that is helping society around us. That can be done in different ways; such as collaborating with colleagues and writing books. These are some of the ways of contributing to the public good.

DSW: Do you feel that being an academic has evolved, and if so, then how?

BHV: Our aim is to produce thoughtful, critical and sensible young adults. It's not about making them depositories of facts. In this global age, where facts are available on the tip of your finger, remembering facts is not necessary. What we want to encourage is the ability to think critically and sift between different arguments. Those are the skills which are more transferrable now. Anyone can Google a piece of information and come up with an answer. What we want them to have is the ability to think, analyze and question what they are reading or being told. We are trying to encourage an inquisitive mind. One of the first things which I feel is really important, is to understand that at times there is not a right answer. We are trying to create a mindset where the person in authority is not always right and its okay to question them. If it strikes you as something you are unsure about, you should be confident enough ask.

DSW: What would you say is the best way for a student to gain the most out of type of education which promote analytical and argumentative skills over facts?

BHV: There has always been a strong form of independence which is found in the culture of School. Since I am an Old Boy, I can say from experience that School gives us our own space, allowing us to make our own decisions. This gives us confidence to ask questions, to take to leadership or work independently. Even though we were still expected to read our books and cram for exam, it was clear that the total of our learning was not limited to academic work. The opportunities which we have today, for example the Model United Nations weren’t there in my time, and these are other ways of learning. The research, dialogue, and debating skills which come out of activities like this are important. Things like Mid-terms also taught us so much. In my time, at the age of 15, the idea of deciding with a group of four friends, where you want to go and how, was a big step. It put a lot of responsibility on us, which fostered a sense of maturity. The School has always had a culture where it trusted its students to take independent decisions responsibly.
A Two-Way Lens

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What does it mean to be a photographer by profession?

Toby Smith (TBS): I am a freelance photographer, self-employed and have my own small company. For 10 years now, I’ve worked on many photography assignments. My clients include broadcasters, international magazines and commercial entities. More recently, I’ve enjoyed collaborating with The University of Cambridge.

DSW: What are some of the issues you have tried to solve through photography?

TBS: When I first started my career, I was very interested in the energy industry. I started looking at projects related to the domestic situation in the UK. I photographed every single power station in Britain, over a two year period, and all at night. My photography style tends to be well-researched, obsessive, or getting a grip on the subject matter. This is also why I love working with the University of Cambridge, as it has that similar depth of understanding. I’ve also looked at mining and illegal source extraction. I also have a soft spot for the island of Madagascar and have spent three years looking at the symptoms of the political crisis there such as timber extraction or illegal gemstone extraction. I also have an interest in visual and more hidden narratives. A recent project which I did, was based on mineral extraction in China. I tried to link that to our everyday lives.

DSW: What do you think stands out in this particular range of photographs that you’ve done?

TBS: Pani Pahar has been a challenge which also fits in with what I enjoy. I was brought really late to the project, so most of the research had already been undertaken. Because of this, there was a lot of data collected and a lot of work I was involved in. A lot of people are obsessed with what makes a great picture, whereas what really matters when working professionally is a great story or a great narrative. This results in the pictures coming much later. So, with limited time, my first task was to see the data that had been collected and identify my field and area within the project. And what we have really enjoyed is being targeted on our exhibition and publication strategy.

DSW: How did you work to get where you are today as a photographer?

TBS: Everything I’ve done before my photography career is why I now have my career. I used to be quite interested in science in school, but at the age of 18 I joined the military, in a reconnaissance platoon, where I learned to be self-sufficient, do my homework, and understand mapping and cartography. I combined those two passions and went on to study the environment and zoology at the undergraduate level. Later, I moved to east Africa, where I became a tour guide and a professional photography guide in the ecotourism industry. Then, with a bump on my head and an empty wallet, my journey continued when I came back to England. It was here that I found that photography was my personal hobby. I took it seriously enough to apply for a postgraduate course in the subject, and as soon as that course finished, I started publishing that work. However, technical things such as operating a camera came after I did all of the things I mentioned, and not before.

DSW: If there was one project you could revisit, what would it be?

TBS: I would like to go back to my project on power stations. I was still quite frustrated with the post graduate course in contemporary photography, and I found the analysis of historical photography and the rigour of project a little frustrating. I didn’t find it pointless, but I was impatient. Suddenly, I found a subject matter and something which was important to me- the burning of fossil fuels. I found the subject narrative and thought it was more important than all the things going on around it, and it sucked me in like a whirlwind. For about two years, I didn’t care about anything but this project and I was unaffected by anything else around me. This was one of my best projects as I was very focussed on it.

DSW: What would you want to say to people who don’t know what they want to do?

TBS: I never really knew what I wanted to do and it’s actually a healthy anxiety that I let myself have. The media industry in evolving so quickly that by the time you are satisfied with what you want to do yourself, the floor beneath you may have changed. So I think this is something no student should be worried about; rather, it should be celebrated. Having said so, don’t commit yourself to personal investments that don’t have value to yourself or others.

The Weekly interviewed award-winning British photojournalist Toby Smith.

A Two-Way Lens
The Pool School

Amal Bansode

The incessant rains during the previous weekend proved one of my hypotheses true: that we are, in fact, living in ‘The Pool School’. Now, before you argue we’re actually in a ‘dun’ (a valley), and therefore The Doon School, let me explain why I think we’re actually in The Pool School—home to hundreds, if not thousands, of pools.

As per Google Maps, our school houses one of twenty-five swimming pools in Dehradun. And, undeniably, we Doscos love our pool. Now, if this isn’t enough to call ourselves The Pool School, the reasons which follow should convince you that we are, indeed, the school of pools.

Last Friday, Oberoi House and Jaipur House were lucky to witness the transformation of the Skinners’ Field from grassy land to a full-scale pond within an evening. With the Skinners’ Lake in view, Oberoi House resembled a beachfront property. Doscos gleefully displayed their impressive football skills as they cavorted around the soaked field. I don’t know whether the Main Field underwent a similar transformation, but I can imagine it must have turned into a site for numerous ponds as well.

The irregular roads and pathways in School also turned into smaller stretches of water bodies as it rained, leaving Doscos to “Tarzan leap” across them. If I were a master in School, I would certainly try to speed through these pools to drench students. But at most I’d probably offer students a ride.

Next, on a smaller scale, are the pools of rainwater, fungus, and sweat in Doscos’ floaters. This clinches the prize for ‘biggest pet peeve’ during the rainy season. What was going through the minds of the designers of our floaters when they added the raised rubber bordering our floaters? Were they trying to keep our toes from falling out? To add to the agony, my floaters like to squeak when wet. On the bright side, they’re the most effective way to draw attention to myself (unless my peers are wearing black shoes, clacking across the Main Building).

Believe it or not, the CDH is home to a few hundred pools of water too. Disregarding the regular spills, plates and bowls in the CDH tend to become reservoirs as water separates from gravy. However, I can confirm this situation has improved over the years, and that the pools in the CDH are no longer as large as they used to be.

And most importantly, what is perhaps the most repulsive kind of pool—urinals. Numerous urinals around School have been partially clogged for months now. This doesn’t warrant much of an explanation, but, simply put, there are at least another three pools in School.

“A Narrative For Change”

Sriman Goel reports on the recent panel discussion held on the “Pani, Pahar” exhibition.

For any significant project, you need a dedicated group of people working closely together with a common vision in mind. Often, this group consists of experts from various fields, and sometimes even different backgrounds. A stellar example of such a group visited School this past week. Old Boy Bhaskar Vira, British photographer Toby Smith and CEDAR Fellow Dr. Vishal Singh held a panel discussion and spoke about the exhibition “Pani, Pahar” at the Art & Media Centre. In their words, their purpose at School was to shed light on a variety of views - not only, for one, on how environmental change is affecting Uttarakhand’s beautiful valleys so close to our home, but also to explain how change is a narrative, and their role in expressing it to those unaware.

How do a geographer at Cambridge, a British photographer and an Indian forester come together to spread awareness about mountain valleys and lakes that are far from the eyes of those even living here in Garhwal? Their common vision was probably academic interest at first, but subsequently, bringing this knowledge to all in the form of a story became inevitable. Four years and many small steps have built up to the stunning recognition they have received for their work.

The panel asked an important question themselves: Now that some of us Doscos have seen the exhibition, what does it mean to anyone at School? Is it just information to students, awareness that a group of people have done this research and shot a few photographs? Although this answer remains for readers to ponder upon, there were a few thoughts that may echo with readers. They believe that the world cannot be even glimpsed from behind a screen or lens, or with only the words of people on the internet. To avoid the ‘white noise’ of the internet, we need to think and feel for ourselves. There are enough people who will ‘just talk’ about many topics, and we are easily influenced by the words of these others. But instead, if we ourselves think, “How can we save the planet?”, “How can we conserve water?”, “How can we prevent global warming?” - we can see change quite easily around us. Quite literally, to ‘Be the change you want to see.’
The trees of Chandbagh groaned under the weight of the howling wind and unrelenting rain. As the clock struck seven, SC-Formers across campus donned their crisp white kurtas and bathed in the finest colognes. Mustering all the courage at their dispense, the young men marched headstrong onto the battlefield. As they trudged through the rain, goodbyes were said, and last wills and testaments were written; heavy casualties were expected. A common ordeal stood ahead of us all: our very first Socials.

Having already been through a round of ‘D&T Collaborations’, the majority lot of the batch that prides itself in social illiteracy found solace in the possibility of not having to start from scratch. Meanwhile, ‘The Lady Killer’, ‘Hunarbaaz’ and ‘The Lucknowi Nawab’ were warming up to stretch some long unused muscles. As the bevy of Welhamites surged through the gates of the MPH, the once brave Doscos retreated to their increasingly comfortable seats. In an attempt to rally his troops, ‘The Vitruvian Man’ took to the stage to deliver a rousing speech, promising a feast for the eyes. Inspired by his words, the two distinct groups merged into chattering blocks littered around the hall. While some romantic hearts claimed entire tables to themselves, the likes of yours-truly made do by twiddling their thumbs, just hoping to strike up a conversation. ‘The Topper’ could be seen actively table-hopping, so fast in fact that one might think he was running to catch a midnight train to Bhopal. Somewhere in the middle of all this awkwardness was an oasis for heartbroken blokes and shy folks alike. Occupied originally by the man from Berryhouse, the most recent beau of my namesake, as well as his predecessor from Oberoi, others could be spotted as they joined the squad.

Just as the awkwardness reached its peak, the sumptuous dinner mitigated the anxieties. As all previous inhibitions and fears disappeared down our gullets, the room began to feel brighter. It seemed though, that some of our boys had made it to the occasion simply to binge the food the past week had denied them. The food brought out the best in us, opening up conversations ranging from personal javelin throw records to how religion is used as a tool of oppression. Amidst these intense discussions, the previously merry couples seemed to erupt into flames, firing ammunition many years in the making. Elsewhere, ‘The Maharajah’ plotted with his ‘Climbing Partner’ and the ‘Human Pimple’ from Tata to dessert the field in a strategic retreat to movie night. Before they could act though, the time had come for the School Captains’ Dance. As the duo took the floor, the awkwardness was almost tangible, indeed enough to prompt a redefinition of what it means to be platonic. Up next were the House Captains and their fairer counterparts, whose combined reluctance could account for the rest of the batch.

Finally, the rest of the gathering joined in, with most people dancing their hearts out. As the music grew louder, the once gentle crowd transformed into a single mass of sweat and noise. A blend of Punjabi Rap, EDM and the occasional slow song swayed the crowd, with the latter being used by our boys to swoon their sweethearts. ‘Hunarbaaz’ and ‘The Lucknowi Nawab’ stole the show with their fancy twirls and quick foot work, but the magic was short-lived in the case of the Nawab.

As the evening drew to a close, either party was reluctant to leave. The demands for an encore were in vain, and soon, the Welhamites were on their way home. In the wake of their conquest were lovesick Doscos, now biding their time till DSMUN. We can hardly wait!
The Week
Gone By

Divyansh Nautiyal

The week witnessed Chandbagh facing the wrath of the weather gods as incessant rains continued their interminable marathon in the State. With the Football grounds muddy, the Swimming pools clogged and the Tennis and Basketball courts wet, the Doscos found themselves resorting to comfortable naps in the afternoons. The rains also brought along a mysterious network of Wi-Fi connections with ‘Hospital’ and ‘Skinners’ being found in unusual places around the campus. Nonetheless, they did compensate for the long internet outages faced by School over two days. However, like any other year, the Gym did not fail to impress with Doscos pouring in to ‘get into shape’ ahead of DSMUN. Let us hope that their sincere efforts come to fruition. With the Football season in full swing, the Houses and the School team could be spotted practicing enthusiastically on the pitch. PT too commenced on Wednesday knocking the sleepy Doscos out of their beds. PT also brought forth the first set of leadership positions from the S form as they began to ‘fill in the shoes’. The S formers could also be spotted with their heads buried into SAT/ACT books as they began another long journey of finishing with standardized testing. Pray that they complete it! On the co-curricular front, the dawn of toil and hard work set upon the School. With the casting of the Plays completed, the paginations of Publications drafted and the Exhibitions planned out, the stretch of endless nights is only yet to begin. The School also welcomed the first few Exchange students and looks forward to meeting the others on their way to School. Saturday night saw the MPH lit with dance and music as the SCs ventured into their first Socials of the term. Luckily as they are, another awaits them right after DSMUN in our sister School. Another dark monsoon approaches with Mid Year Trials in less than a month. If not for this one, do surely be prepared for the next one. Till then, stay safe and dry.

Crossword

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<tr>
<td>2. This American musician was born blind and is famous for songs such as 'Isn't She Lovely' and 'Superstition'.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Forced into a wheelchair due to a trolley accident, this Mexican artist is famous for her self-portraits.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. This actor is the protagonist in the movie ‘Back to the Future’, and was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease at the age of 29.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. This Classical German composer and pianist suffered from progressive deafness, and is famous for his pieces Symphony No. 9 and No. 7.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. This British naval hero is famous for winning ‘The Battle of Trafalgar’ and ‘The Battle of Nile’ while missing one eye and one arm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. This American president was paralysed from the waist down and guided the nation through World War II.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. This American writer, political activist and lecturer was the first deaf and blind person to get a college degree.</td>
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<td>5. Diagnosed with ALS, this American physicist is famous for his work on general relativity and quantum mechanics.</td>
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<td>7. An Academy Award winner for her role in ‘Children for a Lesser God’, this actress has been deaf ever since she was 18 months old.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. This Indian TV actress and dancer is one of the most well-known Bharatanatyam dancers, despite losing one of her legs. She is famous for learning how to dance using a prosthetic ‘Japri foot’.</td>
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Note: All answers to this crossword are the concerned person’s surnames.

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors’ own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

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