



Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

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## 'Food for Thought'

*Arhant Khullar writes on the problems faced by the CDH staff members.*

Imagine yourself in a service occupation- one where you enter the workplace in the wee hours of the morning and work meticulously till late hours at night: each day, without fail. Imagine doing all this, and the job being thankless, where many of those served neither know how hard you work, nor spare a thought about your efforts, and remaining unappreciated for as long as you're employed.

This condition of labour is the one borne everyday by our own CDH staff. Over my last five years in School, I have noticed this lack of gratitude towards the CDH staff - most of which (I assume) is due to ignorance. Thus, the purpose of this article is to turn the limelight onto the efforts of our School's most active department, and how we have forgotten to recognise them.

Like I mentioned, almost all staff members in the CDH work exhaustively, making for a typical workday of several hours. As any other major unit of the School, the CDH Staff is divided into many sections such as the chefs, stewards, cleaners and more. The efforts of all these individuals boil down to three twenty minute meals interspersed with teas every day for the whole term.

The CDH can never run late or be inefficient, because the only things immune to procrastination in School are our meal times, and we all must have a decent amount of food every meal. The CDH provides this food every day, in the proper quantity and without fail. National holidays, religious festivals and personal emergencies have no effect on the CDH's duty to provide food on time. Added to this are instances when the staff must arrive for work on time amidst all conditions.

**“National holidays, religious festivals and personal emergencies have no effect on the CDH's duty to provide food on time.”**

While we often complain about the icy PT sessions every morning in January, imagine the CDH worker who, at the height of winter, arrives early in the morning before we're awake and uses his bare hands in the cold to prepare our food – 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Quite difficult, isn't it? Summers don't lag far behind when it comes to a difficult life: the heat and humidity provides for an uncongenial environment. Plus, in both seasons, the food has to be served as fresh as possible and the fans provide a hindrance to that, making it impossible to have some respite from the heat in the months of April and May.

Amidst all this we have the new Brunch system, which almost all Doscors have accepted instantly with open mouths, and without any scrutiny whatsoever. Hardly does anyone realise the amount of work that happens behind the scenes. Initially, the monotonous Sundays had a breakfast at nine with lunch and dinner being served at the usual times, allowing the bearers a more lax routine on a holiday for all. The Brunch system, however, has actually increased the time and effort they put into their duties, as they have to constantly cook food for three hours and come to work earlier than what their usual Sunday schedule allowed them to do. In this, our increased leisure is at their expense.

I hope all this serves as some insight into the difficult task of being a CDH bearer. Indeed, a gestalt view is impossible, for the personal sacrifices our staff make with their work are unknown to us. In this respect, I would quote the President of the DSOBS, Mr Jaswinder Bull, from his recent Assembly speech on the subject of service, where he said that “aristocratic people are those who give back to their society.” As we serve those outside our walls, we ought to look inward and give back to those who serve us, since real charity begins at home. Even a small ‘Thank you’ after a refill would be an important step in this regard, and give our unsung heroes of the CDH the appreciation they truly deserve.



## Regulars

### Polymaths

Tejit Pabari and Chinmaya Sharma have been awarded the **Scholars' Blazer**.

Kudos!

### The Quiz Master

Vaibhav Chandak has been awarded **Quiz Colours**.

Congratulations!

### Final Accolades

The following boys received awards at the **Farewell Assembly, 2017**:

#### School Colours:

Anuvrat Choudhary

Madhav Bhardwaj

Atrey Bhargava

Rahul Agarwal

Chaitanya Kediya

Tushaar Sharma

Ishaan Kapoor

Vansh Aggarwal

Kartavya Nagpal

#### Marker Cup for General Proficiency (Seniors):

Ishaan Kapoor

#### Headmaster's Award for the Most Outstanding Contribution to the School: Madhav Bhardwaj

#### Trophy for the Best English Debater: Chaitanya Kediya

#### Kanwar J.B. Singh Medal for Community Service:

Jaiadityavir Singh

#### Special Prize for Excellence in the Trinity College Music Examinations (Associate Level):

Anuvrat Choudhary

Well Done!

*"If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals."*

**-J.K. Rowling**

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

*Many religion to practise.*

**Mr Gautam Thapar**, financial guru.

*There's library in the viva.*

**Aryaman Agarwal**, starts his preparations.

*I really know how to dance this.*

**Aradhya Singhal**, showing off.

*Unbias yourself!*

**ARB**, the ideal judge.

*My big is too chin!*

**Kushagra Kar**, under exaggeration.

*Catching catches.*

**Dhanvi Shukla**, caught out.

### This Week in History

**322 BCE**: The Greek Philosopher Aristotle dies.

**1451 CE**: Amerigo Vespucci, an Italian navigator, is born in Florence.

**1774 CE**: The British close the port of Boston to all commerce.

**1876 CE**: Alexander Bell invents the telephone.

**1969 CE**: James Earl Ray is sentenced to 99 years in prison for the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

### Around the World in 80 Words

Donald Trump issued a new executive order restricting travellers from six Muslim nations. The UK's lawmakers voted to give the House of Commons the power to reject the final terms of a Brexit deal. WikiLeaks accused the CIA of intruding once again on the privacy of American citizens. The final phase of the Indian State Assembly elections ended Wednesday. Viswanath Mahadeshwar was elected the Mayor of Mumbai. India beat Australia in the second test of their four match cricket series.

**Dosco Doodle**

**Musical Chairs**

*Pratham Bansal*



# IGCSE: The Road Ahead?

**Aryan Chhabra** *highlights problems with the School's adoption of the IGCSE curriculum.*

As the much-feared boards begin, I am reminded of a few thoughts pondered over a year ago when I wasn't a mere observer. While reflecting on the ICSE stress, I'd begun to despise the notion that the inclusion of certain 'key-words' and pre-prepared answers to pre-prepared questions could shape my future. I dare say this feeling was (and maybe is) shared by my form-mates, juniors and seniors. So, when School introduced the IGCSE, a new curriculum that promised a more hands-on approach to education, I was elated, and to be more honest, envious of the batches succeeding me for their opportunity to study a more diversified curriculum. However, it is only recently that I realised the greater impacts this curriculum has on our School, and as you read further, I will delve into what this change entails for present as well as future DoscOs.

To start, let's first explore the reasons why our School adopted this foreign curriculum. Like my initial envies, one of the reasons we adopted the IGCSE was its attractive course that emphasised application-based modules over book-based studying. Importantly, this feature ensued that cramming or *rutting* would be greatly reduced, making it a viable alternative to the ICSE. Also, it offered students the opportunity to experience elements of the IB Diploma Programme and make the transition between the two almost seamless. I am sure that the administration looked at all these factors, and more, when they decided to adopt the curriculum. However, in my opinion, they may have considered some negative effects as tolerable— which I believe reach deeper than they seem.

Firstly, the IGCSE has an approach which is more aligned with the IB than any other curriculum we offer. While some may hail the curriculum as one which reduces rote-learning and actively challenges students, the fact remains that it nearly shuts off the option of students to choose the Indian Schools' Certificate (ISC). After the two-year IGCSE, the chances of a student taking the ISC - with an extensive (and indeed, exhaustive) course, different approach to learning and different assessment criteria - are reduced significantly. Ergo, the two curriculums are effectively incompatible with each other and it would be imprudent to choose the ISC in one's final two years of School. Since this measure binds the ISC option, the majority of the batch that wishes to apply to Indian colleges effectively can't do so. Although IB students technically can apply to India, the fact remains that Indian university curriculums are, again, vastly different and nearly incompatible with the IB. Furthermore, IB students wouldn't be able to apply to Delhi University in their graduating year, arguably the most prestigious in the country, or sit for the IIT-JEE, NEET or CLAT tests, which clash with the Diploma Exams and would need a gap year for coaching, which unlike for ISC, is unfeasible while one studies the IB. Another drawback which we currently face is the change of the School system

**“ The majority of the batch that wishes to apply to Indian colleges effectively can't do so. ”**

to meet the demands of the IGCSE course. The introduction of the three-term system was primarily done to keep us in sync with the rest of the country, along with making our School more suitable for IGCSE. I am sure the new system has achieved this purpose but one of the by-products of this change has been at the expense of ISC students. In the earlier system, the SC-Form began their syllabus in February. Now, the syllabus will begin in April, and thus reduce the time for the completion of the SC-Form course, which is incredibly large and was difficult to complete even under the older system; one only needs to ask ISC Teachers to know more. Plus, thanks to the new system, ISC students now have less time for completing that segment of the syllabus that matters most – the SC-Form course - which is the only segment tested in the Board examinations. Given all these effects, which impact both students and teachers alike, was it really wise for our School to shift to IGCSE? I think not.

But there is a far worse implication: the School will be losing out on a lot of prospective students who wish to apply to India and not go abroad, but are hindered from doing so because of the IGCSE. These students are gifted in their own ways and would've been assets to the School community, but more importantly their absence on our campus would greatly harm the diversity amongst students, especially in terms of economic class. All of us know that colleges abroad cost stiffly more than those in India, and having a curriculum tailored for the same would make incoming batches primarily consist of upper-class children willing to go abroad for higher studies. Conversely, a lot of children from economically weaker families will refrain from applying to Doon. Agreed, bursaries and scholarships are available, but those are limited and do not cover the sizable majority of our School – by and large, a student will apply based on his ability to pay the increasing fees. On the whole, what this means for the admission process is less number of applicants which reduces competitiveness and leads to a diminishing quality of students entering Chandbagh.

In the end, I do realise that a large institution like ours requires bold experimentation. However, it is also necessary to evaluate the problems that arise from these experiments, and scrutinise their shortcomings. We as a School must challenge the norm, and question whether a change to the IGCSE was really worth it, and not for change's sake, for as famously said, the latter is cancerous.



# From Lucknow to Lakhimpur

**Kanishkh Kanodia** reviews the recent State Assembly Elections held in Uttar Pradesh.

This year's election in India's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, was replete with fiery rhetoric, unexpected alliances, uncanny acronyms and a fierce battle for power. The stage was set by a series of ever-increasing feuds and alliances in an effort to secure the legislature, often termed as the 'grand prize' of Indian politics short of a Lok Sabha majority. The news of a falling out between the father and the incumbent son was brewing when the unprecedented alliance of the Samajwadi Party (SP) and Indian National Congress (INC) raked up the poll dynamic and forced other parties – Mayawati's Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the BJP – to rethink their strategies. The resulting confluence made for an ever exciting election that has left the electorate and, indeed, the whole of India anxiously waiting for the results that will be released today.

With its population of over 200 million people, Uttar Pradesh is a state where the lines of religion, caste and community still play a pivotal role in determining the people's voting choices. So, at a time when the Supreme Court of India banned the use of religious appeals while campaigning, we saw politicians using "graveyards and cemeteries" instead of mosques and temples to persuade people along with slogans of '*bijli on Diwali*' and '*bijli on Ramadan*' being rampant. In the case of the BJP, these served as its main argument to desperately shed the 'anti-Muslim' image it bears. However, since their primary vote base remained the Upper Caste coalition (Brahmins and the Thakurs), its tactics of using 'Hindutva' and polarisation were quite evident. This is why we saw the infamous MP (from my hometown, Gorakhpur) Yogi Adityanath, and the sixth-grade pass Union Minister Uma Bharti at the grassroots helm of these elections. However, what gave them increased chances was the Modi juggernaut in 2014 that swept 73 out of the state's 80 Lok Sabha seats. As usual, the Prime Minister assumed the party's face of the campaign despite its weak State presence and no Chief Ministerial candidate. Having failed to learn from its past experience in the Bihar elections, I believe the lack of a state figurehead would be one reason for a poor performance today, and adopting the Assam approach of projecting a state figurehead would've been prudent.



In contrast, hopes are high for the incumbent Samajwadi Party, who may again form the government for a second term. Despite a strong state presence and fresh emergence from an internal struggle, the past cannot be erased from memory. Incumbent chief minister Akhilesh Yadav's tenure was initially marked by poor law and order, as well as crimes against women increasing by 61% in three years, leading to the state being termed as a *jungle-raj*. It is thus believed that the 'young and charismatic' leader in whom people had conferred their faith has disappointed the state, primarily influenced by his father, Mulayam Singh Yadav. However, Mulayam's loss of party control in the recent internal controversy with supporters has served to reassure the electorate that the UP would be bereft of corruption and nepotism in another SP-ruled government. Its junior partner, the Congress, is a minor player this election, and is expected to add few seats to the coalition's tally.

This status has led many Congress leaders to view their own party with contempt, the sidelining in UP being seen as a gradual departure from the political spotlight of the country. The party maintains a weak base with few state leaders at the fore, save for the few inherited areas around Rae Bareilly and Amethi, the latter of which is in jeopardy this election. While the party still hasn't reworked its ideological base after the General Elections, coupled with leader Rahul Gandhi's poor policy grasp (quoting him, "I want to see Obama's bedsheet marked *Made in UP*") the only conceivable motive it has in this election is to save grace, and manage a few dents in the BJP's machine.

This leaves us with one last ingredient of this momentous mix – the BSP, led by the four-time Chief Minister Mayawati. Traditionally dependent upon the Other Backward Class (OBC) and *Dalit* vote, the party has reworked its message to target Muslim voters across the state. Indeed, the hike in the number of Muslims contesting under the Elephant flag signals a shift in their strategy to steal votes from the anti-BJP bloc. However, her track record remains bleak from the numerous corruption scandals that occurred under her multiple tenures. Moreover, the personality cult she created by spending extravagantly on Dalit memorials, parks, and a gargantuan statue of herself in Lucknow further tarnishes her resume. If one were to go by the 2014 Lok Sabha election, the party's record breaking tally of zero seats makes it clear that voters have made up their minds.

But the impending question remains: who will emerge victorious in this grand election? If one were to predict,

I believe that the SP-INC alliance would gain a slight majority— dealing another hard blow to the BJP’s hopes for Rajya Sabha seats or a 2019 victory. However, even as a government is formed this evening, it is unfortunately clear that the religious and communal lines in our nation are indelible in spite of a Supreme Court judgment. For UP’s sake, let’s hope the next government isn’t as divisive.

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# The ‘Big Six’

**Jai Lakhanpal** *discusses the emergence of Chinese Football.*

Over the past few decades, China has witnessed rapid economic growth, pouring large amounts of the money it has earned into various fields such as healthcare, infrastructure and education. Recently, the Chinese President has added another aspect to that list— Football. The President, who recently revealed his acute interest in football, has drafted plans which seek to make China a leading country in the sport by 2020. In order to achieve this, China has spent huge sums of money into building stadiums, improving kit quality and training infrastructure, and most importantly, luring top-class players from Europe.

A couple decades ago, the CSL was not popular in many parts of the world, however due to their sudden signing of world class players many supporters and football followers have recognised the CSL. In the past year, the CSL has experienced growth at a colossal rate. It has become the world’s fastest growing football league.

The League teams went ahead and bid for high quality players from Europe’s ‘Big 5’- The Premier League, Serie A, Bundesliga, La Liga and Ligue 1. Recently Shanghai SIPG placed a bid for Chelsea’s Oscar Emboaba, being guaranteed a whopping wage. Several other Chinese clubs have signed many other European players like Carlos Tevez, Hulk, Gervinho, Demba Ba and Adrian Ramos. China has also got a tad bit too ambitious in targeting some of Europe’s most valuable and in-form talent such as the prolific striker Diego Costa and Manchester United legend Wayne Rooney.

Due to their multiple signing they have overthrown The Premier League in terms of supporters. Fans all around the globe, mainly in Europe feel that the CSL is slowly taking away their heritage and culture. Europe has always been the heart of football and China’s signing spree is consequently decreasing the level of football there. However, we must accept that all countries can have a fair shot at making new football culture, even if that destroys another’s. On the other hand, even China has to realise that simply buying proven European players, won’t automatically increase the League’s level. To improve the CSL’s overall level, China should also focus on improving their local talent. Doing this will not only boost the League, but will simultaneously increase the talent of the Chinese

National team, not to mention helping Chinese youths realise their potential. The Chinese Super league has warned the Premier League that they will soon ‘be able to take whoever they want, whenever they want...’. One must also keep in mind that the Chinese do have the capacity to become a prominent name in football, and considering the funds at their disposal, the future could fully well see ‘The Big Five’ becoming ‘The Big Six’.

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| Poetry |

# Red-decked Joy

**Armaan Verma**

While king and cook may their love confess,  
Eyes fixate on her bright red dress,  
But brighter is, as she treads the aisle,  
Happiness unveiling her toothy smile.

Few things remain, I do believe,  
To fill the space sorrow does leave,  
Sorrow is gone and in his stead,  
Happiness walks through the hall in red.

In death, in light, in cheerfulness,  
In mirth and in sorrow indeed,  
My eternal bliss, my happiness,  
Is all I’ll ever want or need.

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# Farewell

**Nirvair Singh**

It is that time of year,  
All of me is full of fear.  
It is that time of year,  
The time to bid farewell is near.

The dark hour has arrived where we all part ways,  
We reflect upon moments and days.  
The dark hour has arrived where we all part ways,  
It’s a solemn time, not one too gay.

A chill runs down our spine,  
Our parched throats, craving wine.  
A chill runs down our spine,  
All we taste is brine.

We wish each other good luck,  
A sense of transition is struck.  
We wish each other good luck,  
But from the anguish we cannot duck.

We sob as everyone leaves,  
A feeling you can only feel; not perceive.  
We sob as everyone leaves,  
All they leave behind is a couple falling leaves.

# An Aristocracy of Service

**The Social Service Board** *informs the School of new developments regarding its community service.*

*“Truly, we mean that boys should leave Doon School as members of an aristocracy; but it must be an aristocracy of service inspired by ideas of unselfishness, not one of privilege, wealth or position.” – Arthur Foot*

While passing through the Main Building foyer in our daily pursuits, we perhaps overlook this evergreen quote by our founding Headmaster, one which can be termed as the School’s guiding principle. Even today, Mr. Foot’s words remain as relevant to the School as they did eighty-two years ago. Yet, there exists a growing concern that the force of these words have weakened, and of late we see that boys overlook these words with nonchalance. This very virtue that had once made the boys construct the Kilachand Library and The Rose Bowl is dwindling, and upon our realising this, the Social Service Board was reconstituted to create plan to revive service in school.

In the meeting, it dawned on us that the need for changes to our approach is inevitable with the passage of time.

In order to stimulate relevance, we plan to instil the spirit of service right from a boy’s younger years, which shall be done in a number of ways. Next term onward, with the School Council adopting a new Weekly Schedule, we plan to integrate a proper timetable for

social service that would apply to all students. This, we hope, will develop an interest towards social service through regular involvement, as boys would be exposed to the many projects underway in School.

As a department, Social Service has been active behind the scenes for quite a while. From adopting villages and schools, to creating awareness of community issues in diverse areas of community life, our Board has strived to ensure holistic action. Within this, while boys are able to participate in activities corresponding to their interests – for example, boys interested in the arts could join Tempus, or those in business could join Microfinance - what we lack is the depth for student-run initiatives to function with consistency. While wide involvement is important, it is also necessary to ensure that the communities’ needs are served in the proper spirit and with sincere involvement. Therefore, the Board decided that, henceforth, any boy interested in starting an initiative of his own, or even heading an existing one, would only be permitted to do so once he proves to the Board that his vision is sustainable. Now no longer will boys be able to create ephemeral initiatives that exist purely on one’s CV and vanish the next year. Additionally, for current initiatives, the Board will begin to play a more active role in providing financial and other support that students may need, as mountains cannot be moved single-handedly. Furthermore, to ensure initiatives do not overlap, we have begun merging initiatives that previously did so. These steps, we hope, will streamline the process of social service activities and induce greater efficiency.

Another issue before us was how the institution of Social Service has lost prominence within our community, and sports and co-curricular activities have invariably taken the front seat in a Dosco’s list of priorities. The past few years speak of a general trend: the passion for Social Service only comes with a material incentive in mind, which needs to be changed. In this respect, while our Board does not wish to impose Social Service on boys, we believe that an integral step would be to create an environment that treats social service in an equal measure compared to other pursuits; our efforts in this area will be visible soon enough. After

**“Our School’s purpose and mission is to “produce leaders for a meritocratic India”, of which Social Service has always been a core tenant.”**

all, our School’s purpose and mission rests on “producing leaders for a meritocratic India”, of which Social Service has always been a core tenant. Separate from this multitude, however, we have often observed a few cases of how boys initially begin their service with materialistic intent but soon develop a passion for their causes. This is only an example of how service finds its way into a boy’s value system.

At a deeper level, we Doscos have to imbibe the art of giving back to our surroundings rather than just taking from it. We often end up believing that our own work is somehow an act of ‘service to society’, a proposition that doesn’t always hold. Indeed, true ‘service’ takes place when one takes a step further out of their comfort zone, and puts in the dedication required. It may sound clichéd, but from personal experience, such actions are the most effective means to effect real change in communities, and we plan to instil the spirit of service in the students along these very lines. We don’t need to look far to seek inspiration: the Old Boys are already involved in philanthropic pursuits, as was evident last week with the “Aristocracy of Service” project. Like the alumni of Delhi, we need to join hands to revive the essence of social service, driving change in places where we dwell. That, in our opinion, is the spirit of a *Dosco*.

**“No longer will boys be able to create ephemeral initiatives that exist purely on one’s CV and vanish the next year.”**



# From Dusk to Dawn

Aryan Bhattacharjee

He walked down the hillside while gazing at the Sun that was still beneath the horizon, illuminating the city below. A gentle breeze swept over and moved the sunflowers from their slumber as he sunk into deep thought. One could see the sorrow in his eyes as the dancing daffodil caressed his trembling feet. Yes, he was in pain at the moment. "Life," he thought "I'm done with you. I'm never going back there (looking at the city below)." But life wasn't as unkind as expected, he was the problem. Life told him to mend his ways repeatedly, to start doing what was needed. But he didn't listen, and at one point, it took away what he loved the most: his identity. Just as the reckless figure in the morning light closed his eyes to jump, he heard a whisper in the wind, like a soft-voiced angel was approaching. It circled him once and then came very close to his ears and whispered, "I have something you need. In order to get it, you will have to prove that you deserve getting it back, so stop sinking in your sorrow and get back to work." But he didn't have it. "Pretty convenient, isn't it? Making me dance to your music like a snake to the piper!" he said. "You break me umpteen times and then expect me to rise again, untouched and energetic? The fact of the matter is that I can't! I'm done with it! Leave me alone and go back to your abode," he replied, almost screaming.

The voice left and he opened his eyes to see a butterfly sitting on his nose. It had beautifully coloured wings and it nearly flew away with the jerk caused by his surprise. For a few moments, he looked at the butterfly and it back at him. The world seemed to be such a beautiful place. The Sun, now high in the sky warmed his face, and reassured him of life. The butterfly flew away soon after and left on him a bit of its magnificent colour. He smiled for the first time in days, looked down at the city and all that was taking place in it. Just then, the same breeze began to blow again and the voice came up to him, and in one breath said, "Life awaits you!" With that, he ran back down the hill, eager to start again.

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## Under the Scanner

The Gurmehar Kaur Controversy | **Karan Sampath**

As I set out to write this piece, a sense of irony overcame me for I remembered that shall be printed the same week that when International Women's Day is celebrated. Gurmehar Kaur, a student of Ramjas College in Delhi, has been dragged into a storm of violent accusations of being 'anti-nationalist'. This controversy traces its roots to about a year ago, when Gurmehar launched a campaign named #ProfileForPeace, advocating the easing of tensions between India and Pakistan. While furthering her mission, Kaur criticized both countries uniformly, asking both governments to "solve the problem". What sparked an outrage, however, was her statement that 'Pakistan didn't kill her father. War did.' her father being a martyred soldier from the Kargil War. Recently, the controversy was stoked when students of the RSS's student wing - Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) - clashed with students of Ramjas College over a march supporting freedom of expression. Kaur, in support of this march, posted a picture of herself holding a placard with an anti-ABVP statement written on it. This led to a severe backlash on social media that spanned from politicians to sportsmen, with Kaur receiving multiple death and rape threats, going to the extent that she was 'trolled' by social media users for an online video with a girl that resembled her dancing and consuming alcohol.

Primarily, Kaur has been accused by many 'nationalists' of being 'anti-national' due to her criticisms of the Indian government. But are we truly so regressive in thought that we cannot tolerate self-criticism? This young woman has attempted to break down false and ill-conceived notions about patriotism. In my opinion, wars are never always one side's fault. It is the refusal to accept such a simple notion even today, in my opinion, indicates that India still remains a society plagued with prejudices and intolerance.

Moreover, the idea that a young woman can't sing or dance with her friends is absurd to say the least. However, many social media users mocked Gurmehar for the aforementioned video which didn't even feature her, with some websites even going to the extent of calling her behavior 'seductive'. But even if it did feature her, to paraphrase Kaur, there is nothing wrong with a young woman enjoying herself in a free and liberal society. This, again, is another instance which reflects the archaic and patriarchal beliefs prevalent in India.

In essence, this controversy, like others, has yet again shed light on the conflict between segments of Indian society. I believe that the real take away from this controversy is to understand that tolerance of diversity and liberalism is the need of the hour. India ought to acknowledge that the way this young lady was treated is wrong and regressive, and ensure that such cases never occur again.

# The Week Gone By

Omar Chishti

It's been a long week of farewells, from the School enjoying the very last musical performance last Saturday. The presentation, whetted to perfection under PCH's attention, was a memorable send off for the Batch of 2017, with their tucking in at the House Feasts over the week being an added bonus. Allow me to part with tradition before I go on, because I'd like to thank PCH for picking me out when I was a little D-Former and telling me she remembered and loved the essay I'd written for Doon's English entrance exam. It's only because of her discerning eye and those few words all those years ago that I ever thought I could write, and though our interaction over the next few years never went beyond my receiving (and hopefully learning from) her criticism after every article, it is her you must bless/curse for being subjected to my rants in this publication every other week.

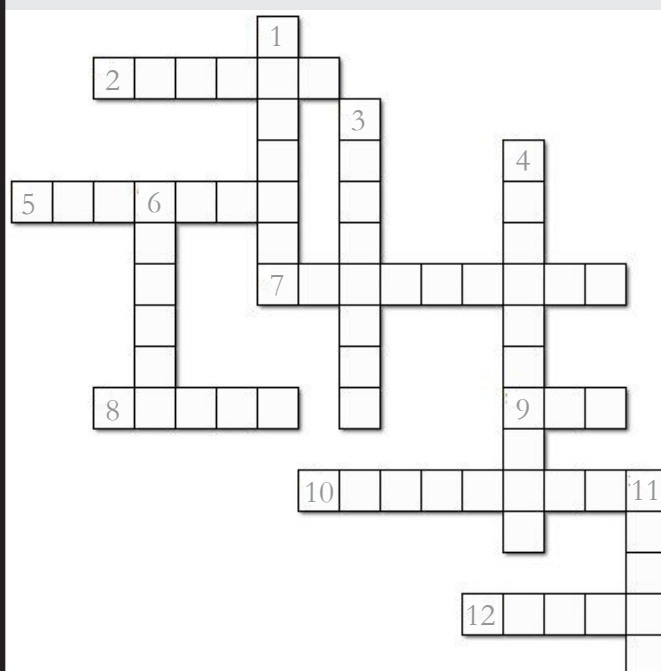
The week began with a lightning raid in a certain house, which (as rumour has it) uncovered a dozen laundry baskets full of food, a couple of PlayStations, a toaster or two, a few iPods, a handful of phones (those survived, my bad) and even \_\_\_\_\_ (insert anything money can buy, and then some). The midweek call up to the AHM's office for absent and late marks has scared the most obstinate defaulters into submission for the last few days of classes, rounding up a quite successful week for the authorities.

On the sporting front, the Inter-House junior matches continued to be played out on the fields, while a heavy cloud of dust settled over Doon because of the prematurely baked playing fields and the post-maturely opened forgotten textbooks. The promise of a hot dusty summer soon vanished, however, with midweek bursts of rain and plunging temperatures.

The ICSE board examinations started for the second last time in School's foreseeable future, with the ATs dragging their newly cultivated paunches and freshly honed intellects (mostly the former, alas) into the hall. The 'S-Form second term' going on among the masters ended with news breaking out of two new appointments. Celebrations in a certain house have still not quite settled down, with joint classes soon to ensue for all. A three day weekend would be celebrated at any other time of the year, but Trials unfortunately dawn. All the best with the start final stretch of preparation!

## Crossword

Notable Women



Note: All answers related to persons in this crossword refer to their surnames.

### Across

2. According to Forbes, currently the world's most powerful woman.
5. Has won 4 Academy Awards for 'Best Actress'.
7. Popular name of the world's longest serving monarch
8. Author of 'Mrs Dalloway'.
9. One of the world's foremost political activists, serving as the current State Counsellor of Myanmar.
10. Longest serving First Lady of the USA.
12. The first woman to ever win a Nobel Prize.

### Down

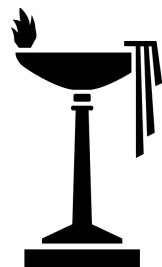
1. The stage name of the winner of 22 Grammy awards, currently married to American rapper Jay-Z.
3. She has won 23 Grand Slams and the current world number one female tennis player.
4. The first woman to go to space.
6. The first female leader of a Muslim Country.
11. The first woman to scale Mount Everest.

Across	
8. Woolf	6. Bhutto
7. Elizabeth	4. Terezhkova
12. Curie	3. Williams
5. Hepburn	10. Roosevelt
2. Merkel	9. Kyi
1. Beyonce	11. Taber
Down	
Answers to This Week's Crossword	

Source: <http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/>

Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/old-boys/past-weeklies/>

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