



Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

Saturday, May 27, 2017 | Issue No. 2470



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## The Perfect Cadence

*As this term concludes, the Weekly bids farewell to Ms Priya Chaturvedi, our former Assistant Manager and outgoing Director of Music. On this occasion, her friends, colleagues, and students share their thoughts on her tenure.*

Looking back over the years, my most memorable moments with PCH are connected to this very publication. She and I worked together for ten wonderful years on the *Weekly*. The many Thursday evening sagas and Friday morning catastrophes that we scraped through could fill a book! We became notorious for our common love for the Oxford comma and our affinity for alliterative headlines. The boys thought we had a psychic, supernatural connect because we almost always made the same corrections to the 'skins'. What redeemed us and established us as human in their eyes was our manic phobia of the resident lizard which had us both shrieking and scrambling out of the *Weekly* room every single week!

- Ms Stuti Kuthiala

"When in doubt, ask PCH" has been my personal mantra, and I know, that of many others of all vintages. She has been a formidable Chairperson at the Chuckerbutty Debates all these years, bringing her inimitable blend of gravitas and humour to a decade of Final rounds. She has trained debaters and elocutors alike over the years, and judged countless debates, always honouring a frenzied, last minute request. All readers in school between the ages of six and 60 know that value of her reading lists, too. PCH is an institution unto herself, my personal hero, and the high priestess of elegant speech and writing. I dare not speak about her music. Ma'am, thank you for the music, the mentoring, and the moral compass always pointing to true North, that shall all go into the incredible legacy you leave behind. To say that you shall be missed is the understatement of the century.



-Ms Priyanka Bhattacharya

I recall those afternoons turned into dusks and evenings and nights when we spoke, at length, in her house, at the living room, against the fumbling sounds on the piano of one student or other, about writing, about stories, about poetry. I remember she asked me once why I wrote and I replied, without hesitation, that it was because it brought me pleasure; "ah, but wait," she retorted, "until it brings you pain." She was my confidant and mentor -- someone who effortlessly restored my confidence when my doubts grew darker and bigger. For her generosity and kindness and compassion, I will be forever in her debt. By her example, I was forced -- as were so many others, I am sure -- to lead a better life. I know that her absence will be felt on campus and she will not be forgotten. But I don't want to say anything about that. I want to say how immeasurably grateful I am that she found it worth her while to get to know me -- that's all. And I want to wish her well.

- Saurav Sethia (151-T, 2009)

An empty piece of paper is often so daunting to most teenagers. However, if you are lucky, you will find someone to help you fill your empty space. In normal parlance, this is what one would call a mentor. Over my six years at school, I had the unparalleled privilege of finding a mentor in Ms Priya Chaturvedi. She's been my tutor, subject teacher and Extended Essay supervisor. From the multiple evenings I spent drinking *chai* and playing with Mishka in her study while we talked of history, music and really just about anything. Of course I cannot

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## Regulars

### Theatrical Titles

The following were awarded the **individual prizes** at the **Inter-House One Act Play Competition, 2017:**

**Best Cover Design:** Ameya Shawak

**Best Poster:** Yash Mittal

**Best Stage Craft:** Aaryan Singla and Aditya Reddy

**Best Technical Director:** Rushil Goyal and Prakarsh Gupta

The **House Positions** are as follows:

**1st:** Kashmir

**4th:** Hyderabad

**2nd:** Jaipur

**5th:** Tata

**3rd:** Oberoi

Kudos!

### Artistic Finesse

Aadita Chauhan, Ameya Shawak and Yash Mittal participated in a **painting competition** held at the **Indian Public School, Dehradun** on **May 12, 2017**.

Yash Mittal secured the **first position** while Aadita Chauhan secured the **fourth position** in the **acrylic painting** category.

Congratulations!

### Around the World in 80 Words

The Pakistani Government denied India's claims of having destroyed Pakistani outposts after a surgical strike. Taiwan's apex court legalised single-sex marriages, being the first Asian country to do so. Meanwhile, United States President Donald Trump met Pope Francis in the Vatican City on Wednesday. A suicide bomb attack during Ariana Grande's concert in Manchester took 22 lives. Chelsea was crowned as the champions of the Premier League while Mumbai Indians won the IPL, beating Rising Pune Supergiants in the final.

*"Success is only meaningful and enjoyable if it feels like your own."*  
- Michelle Obama

### This Week in History

**1887 CE:** 200 die as a gas lamp catches fire during the Paris Opera.

**1895 CE:** Oscar Wilde is imprisoned for sodomy.

**1896 CE:** Nicholas II, the last Russian Czar is crowned.

**1915 CE:** Italy declares war on Austria-Hungary

**1937 CE:** The Golden Gate bridge is inaugurated.

**1977 CE:** The first Star Wars movie is released.

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

*I have to talk in yours language.*

**AGS**, much appreciated, Ma'am.

*Go to the sleep.*

**ADN**, taking charge.

*Now you're very un-shy.*

**SRT**, we wish you were.

*Don't change mans!*

**Archit Bhargava**, leads from the back.

*Anushka Sharma is producing a one movie.*

**Abhyudaye Gupta**, infatuated.

*The people were very nice and hostile.*

**Anay Krishnan**, oxymoron.

*We've been telling you this since a long time.*

**Divyansh Nautiyal**, uninformed.

*We are in a lot of troubles.*

**Nandil Sarma**, your English must be one.

*I am shut up.*

**Rushil Choudhary**, so is your dictionary.

*It is coincidental that you are stupider.*

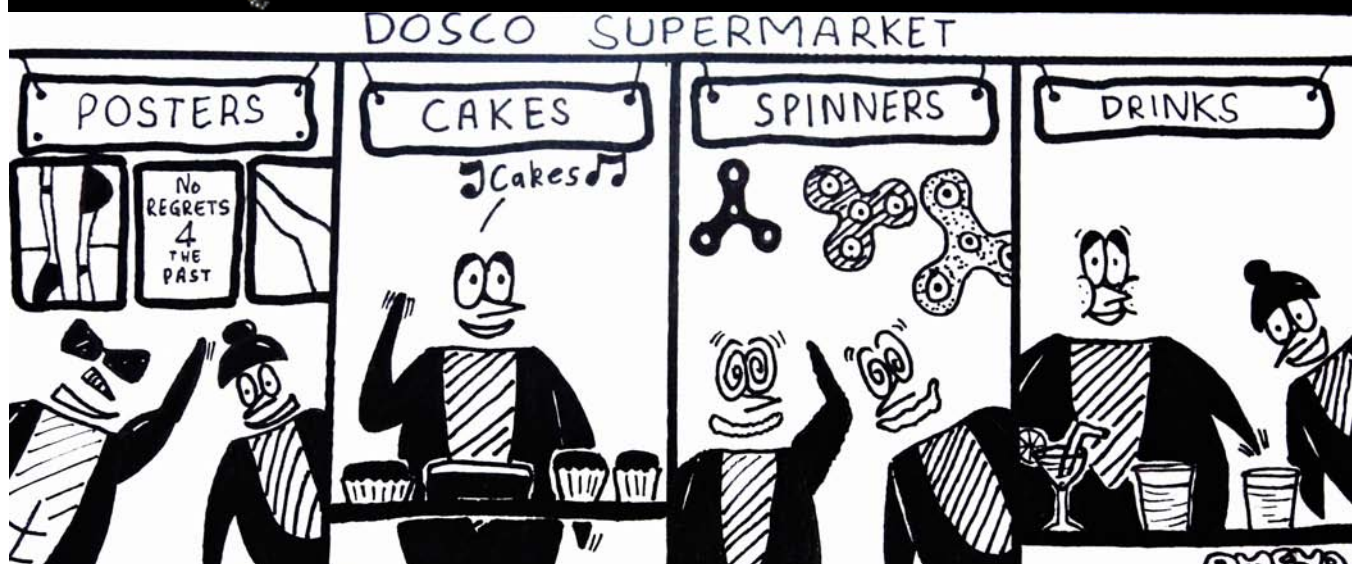
**Rajveer Kochar**, coincidental indeed.

### A Summer Sojourn

As the term concludes, the *Weekly* wishes all its readers a very enjoyable (and much-needed) summer vacation.

**Dosco Doodle**

The 'Service' Sector  
Ameya Shawak



(Contd. from Page 1)

leave out the long hours I spent practicing for whatever the next school music production was. Through these different interactions she introduced me to different worlds of poetic expression. She knew every decision I was contemplating and helped me with just about everything. For all this and so much more, I consider her the single greatest influence on my teenage years.

- Dhruv Johri (254-O, 2017)

Plutarch said that the mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled. To a great extent, it was PCH who kindled this fire for me and became one of the most powerful formative forces in my life ever since I met her. Through D-Form craft to IB Music, from her I learnt as much about life as I did about music. It was her intelligence, kindness and relentless drive that drew me, and several others, to her. Somehow, her wise words and my interactions with her seem to mean more and more as time lingers on. Let us all wish her even more success outside the walls of Chandbagh and hope that in some way her time at Doon gave to her as much as she gave to us all.

- Yuvraj Nathani (609-H, 2015)

My relationship with PCH evolved in interesting ways. I was a little daunted when she first taught me on the piano in C-Form, with easing patience. When I practiced less, she said, "You can never lie to your doctor or your music teacher." It soon became easy to embarrass myself in front of her - I showed her countless writings, which after (quite) a few tweaks, she would say, "Here, it reads great!" On seeing her use musical symbols for pauses and modulations in a speech, I realized that music for her extended far beyond a classroom. I came into school thinking one finds a mentor and friend through seniors; lucky for me, PCH was that and a lot more.

- Yuv Khosla (578-O, 2013)

Ma'am has been my idol and mentor throughout the last five years. Initially, I was uncomfortable with her methods, but was told to appreciate her pains to correct me. Little did I know that music always came first, and not I: a dedication I soon emulated. Apart from her love for music, Ma'am desired to learn about things she came across, and helped students in multiple disciplines. I will be grateful for her teachings, for understanding my introversion and teaching me to manifest it through music. I hope this goodbye isn't for long, and the best gift I could give is my own concert at Carnegie Hall or Royal Albert. For Ma'am's sake, I pray that day comes soon.

- Anuvrat Choudhary (321-T, 2017)

I think PCH ma'am was monumental in shaping the intellects of those who had the fortune of being taught by her in any capacity. There was lots I couldn't have done if it weren't for her, but more importantly, there was so much more I didn't know I could do if she hadn't brought about the enormous development in the potential of my mind in the five years that I had the privilege and honour to know her.

- Rishabh Agarwal (171-K, 2016)

Kids at school would joke, "If PCH doesn't know about it, it probably doesn't exist!" As surprising as it may sound, it's most definitely true. There are very few people I have come across in my life that have truly changed the way I see the world. She taught me devotion, compassion, gratitude, humility and a love for the arts that I will hold on to till the end. I have always felt her presence in all my motivations and decisions. She taught me how to live life, not merely to breathe. And after years and years of selfless service and dedication to the 'culturification' of Doscos, I wish her some much deserved and needed rest.

- Sriyash Kishorepuria (167-O, 2009)

On reading Sriyash's comment one cannot help but smile at the reality that even today, the joke very much exists! From tutorial meetings in D-Form, to unofficial suggestions for the forthcoming issue of the *Weekly* during subject class, it was Ma'am's extensive knowledge and interminable drive that led me, and so many others, to look up to her over the past fifteen years. During piano sessions, Ma'am always went beyond what was written and taught context, form, style and truly encouraged us to 'delve into the secrets of the art.' Getting our founders music score marked with exclamations during late night practices, and poked fun at for being 'Mr Fix it' is what I will remember most of my time with ma'am. I wish her the very best outside Chandbagh!

- Zoraver Mehta

A guide, mentor, and friend. Exacting yet nurturing, she challenged me to push myself far beyond what I thought were the limits of my musical ability, and instilled in me a love for music that will never die. Back in C-Form, as we practised for hours daily in the Music School, I would wince every time PCH chided me to sit up straight at the piano. I look back on countless life lessons fondly now: they have shaped me into the musician and impresario I am today.

- Nikhil Sardana (224-T, 2010)



# To Tutor or Not to Tutor

**Omar Chishti** *discourages enrolment in academic tuition classes.*

While you read this line, there are children somewhere in a tuition class. By this time next week, DoscOs will have joined them for their own holiday tuitions. D-Formers might need classes to adapt to IGCSE, C-Formers to get a head start on their peers. B formers have their eyes on their A-Level exams and A-Formers have theirs on the ICSE. S-Formers have SAT or CLAT or any one of a million tests to prepare for. SC-Formers have ISC tuitions or IB tuitions. Forget current students, there must be hundreds of potential DoscOs who'll be living in Dehradun to cram for the entrance examination.

From before they enter Chandbagh to the time they depart, our students live through tuition after tuition. Protests against them are conspicuous only by their absence. After all, why would anyone protest against such a convenient system? Teachers earn well, students perform well, and parents see 'excellent' report cards. It's high time to reflect on the educational system which creates the need for this shadow economy in the first place.

The School itself has bent over backwards to accommodate this new world of tuition-centric education. To counter the exodus of engineering/medicine aspirants, we've brought coaching institutes to our own Main Building. You'd know Apple won the Smartphone market the day you see a Google CEO toting an iPhone; likewise, you know our education system is losing when the best school in the nation allows for coaching franchises to teach its students in the evenings. Instead of subscribing to the trend, it's Doon's duty as one of India's foremost educational institutes to show the nation the right path: be a place where students are taught to learn on their own, instead of relying on every concept being dumbed down for easy digestion.

**“Education is good. Tuitions are education. Ergo, tuitions are good.” The argument is *non sequitur*.”**

Like most systemic failures, there's a vicious cycle behind the tuition saga,

for which students and teachers are equally responsible. Some students possess neither a proclivity to study nor an inclination to let do so. Their despairing parents prescribe tuitions to try and force some learning upon them. Most of their peers fall prey to the cycle too, since they haven't been allowed to learn in class. Teachers, meanwhile, continue to work under the illusion of their students' performance, since examinations are managed well. The cycle then goes on.

Many shall disagree with my argument outlined till now, since 'tuitions are a systemic necessity.' Competition is fierce, and percentage decimal points can spell out a whole different life for children. "If *Sharmaji ka beta* takes tuitions and tops exams, why shouldn't others?" Since the Indian psyche accepts massive amounts being spent on education, parents don't mind the multiple pipelines on their bank accounts. One big one for school; one for an English tutor; one for Math; one for standardized tests, and one for an external college counsellor. Inequality is rife, of course. The tuition market works at a high premium, and very few can afford the best tutors. Yet some feel that "Education is good. Tuitions are education. Ergo, tuitions are good." The argument is *non sequitur*.

But the presence of tuitions hides one glaring truth: not much learning takes place in schools. Thanks to students' dismissal of School lessons' importance (the number of YCs handed out for bunking may indicate this) and the helplessness of Masters to enforce a change in this attitude while parents continue to pay for tuitions, we're stuck in a rut of inefficiency. Admittedly, tuitions serve some students with academic disabilities, but in a majority of cases serve those let down by system. The degree of this failure is shown clearly by the thousands who attend IIT coaching institutes and leave their secondary education a formality to be completed in 'dummy schools'.

The 21st century doesn't tolerate inefficiencies for long, and those of the education system are the only ones unshaken. The last domino will fall, and fall hard, if we sit and do nothing. Trends follow through with their logical conclusion unless their roots are shaken. In an educational landscape where the only new thing in textbooks since our parents graduated is colour, root-shaking is the urgent need of the hour.

Are we going to remain in educational landscape where academic transmission at schools is obsolete, and tuition dominates? Paradigms shift under our noses. It won't take long before someone realise that children mustn't drag themselves through a string of suboptimal classes if they only learn during afternoon tuitions. It won't take long before some teachers consider the allure of a freelance life. Places like Doon may soon be reduced to being valued only for our extra-curricular activities; traditional education will be relegated to dusty textbooks.

I don't usually write seriously about issues unless I know them well. For tuitions, however, I make an exception. My parents never made me take a single tuition and I don't think I turned out too bad, academically. Is it really so far-fetched to imagine a future where 'tuition' is a mere heading seen by our parents in the academic section of our school fees, and not a concept which monopolises childhoods?

# From The Editor's Desk

Salman Mallick

“To defeat unexpectedly.” This is the definition of the word ‘upset’ given by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. It also means “to trouble mentally or emotionally,” which is undoubtedly what Ms Priyanka Bhattacharya referred to in last week’s Letter to the Editor, and what Bharat Choudhary wrote in his Letter as well. However, that is exactly what I am, to quote the piece, “troubled, mentally or emotionally” by.

I am troubled by the lack of the understanding of the context in which the word ‘upset’ was used in the Week Gone By of Issue 2468. More than that, however, I am troubled by how articles in the *Weekly* have been misinterpreted over the last few weeks. Let us take the example of the case at hand. When one considers the meaning “to defeat unexpectedly”, we see that it brings about a rather positive outlook of the House in question, because it means that against all odds and despite most of the School believing that the House wouldn’t win (this belief was palpable, let us not kid ourselves), the judges thought differently and Kashmir House won. If you look at it objectively, it would actually be a compliment. As for the reference to the Journalistic Code of Ethics, specifically Code #9, I would not make a judgemental commentary, but only talk about the prevailing beliefs around campus, which, to paraphrase Bharat Choudhary’s piece, is actually the *Weekly*’s job.

On a wider note, what strikes me is how humorous articles and columns are not taken with a grain of salt. They are not meant to offend. They are meant to provide a degree of humour in the average Dosco’s and Master’s Saturday. Yet, when people start getting serious about such articles, it defeats the purpose of the article, because all it does is bring stress and anger that is unnecessary.

Before I conclude, I would like to address the apprehensions of some readers regarding my previous Week Gone By, which going by the grapevine, were regarding one line about the awarding of YCs for late and absent marks. The article in question carries the statement “it is felt in some corners”. This basically means that ‘some people’ feel that way, and does not reflect the opinion of the Board of the *Weekly*, but instead some people in School. Therefore, I would rest my pen.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In last week’s issue of the *Weekly* (No. 2469), I came across another Letter to the Editor that disappointed me; it was the one, which talked about cheering during Inter-House matches. For those readers who missed it, the author discussed how juniors are forced to cheer for their houses during matches and felt that this shouldn’t be the case. Personally, I couldn’t disagree more.

On the surface, the issue seems similar to the notion of forced patriotism; but on a deeper look, one realizes they aren’t really the same. The same juniors who object to cheering for their house teams are often the first to feel proud when their house wins a match, or reach a venue when the house receives a treat. They wouldn’t mind when congratulated in assembly for winning a competition, or when they are told to go for House Feasts or *chaat* parties, yet object to cheering for their teams. As far as I know, no one has ever been made to miss anything important for cheering. Regarding the author’s point about student priorities, boys are always excused matches whenever such excuses are valid (i.e. they have any practices, tryouts or events to attend) so that is not an issue.

A certain Master always told me that one’s identity in school is shaped by their respective houses. Now, if one’s house lends them their identity, is it too much for it to ask for one to support that house? I know many would deny this and say that “one creates his own identity” and the house negligibly shapes it, but that’s not true. Haven’t we all been helped and supported by our seniors in our houses to improve in the fields we’re passionate about? This is, precisely, the contribution of a house to a student; from that, I don’t think it’s unreasonable for students to return the favour through a mere act of support.

Another important reason cheering should be compulsory is that it inculcates house spirit in junior students. This may not seem important; but in the real world, it is quite a problem one he doesn’t support his home, family and country when such is needed. I feel this principle applies in both cases.

A school like ours functions because of individuals, teams and competitions. If house spirit lacks then no one other than the teams playing these matches - and maybe captains and prefects- would care about bringing laurels to their House. This would be a very sad state of affairs and would reduce in the quality of these events. Maybe, seeing that no one else cares about winning, the team may not work as hard or play as well as they do now.

I hope this letter can incite some thought by the school community at large, and in particular, for those who object to cheering.

Regards,

Abhiraj Lamba

# The Terms Gone By

Omar Chishti and Salman Mallick

It was a new beginning to the term(s) this time, considering we began on the January 20th. This change in date may not have seemed like much, but it did feel cold enough to chill even the hardiest of Doscos. On the other hand, we saw the warm spirits of the SCs (sorry, *technically* S-Formers) as they waited eagerly for the result of their hard toils of the past year.

The expected phase of lateness and slackness of the majority of S-Form began right after that, while the newly crowned kings were shipped off to polish their skills and make plans for the coming year. Cricket had started, with many desperately warming up their hands to make catching as comfortable as possible during the early morning practices. PT was also, as usual, has been the thorn in the flesh for many a Dosco, who somehow (superhumanly) managed to wake up despite it being dark out and the beds being so warm.

We also saw the SC (E) and the AT Forms gearing up for their delayed board examinations (owing to external political conditions), while the SC-IB batch continued (bunked would be apt) their classes. Funnily enough, their college placements were impeccable, although their internal assessment work was far from it. Then again, with most of them more concerned about how to make the jump, since they wouldn't be able to keep up with the IAs, would they? (In case you were planning to do the same, a warning: barbed wire has been put up.)

Speaking of such extra-curricular activities, the spring term saw quite a few disturbances regarding fire-alarms, mirrors, and bells, with the big one being the black jacket with many a pocket filled...that led the owner to be left outbound.. With results coming out quite soon, who knows what effect such 'extra-curricular' activity had on the final grades?

While this went on, the rest of School was beset by the March Promotional Trials. This one was a completely different experience, with final exams being given in the sweltering heat instead of the bitter cold, though I must say it was way easier to wear many layers and survive the cold as compared to wearing the bare minimum and sweating profusely. Following that ordeal, we broke for a long sought fifteen-day vacation.

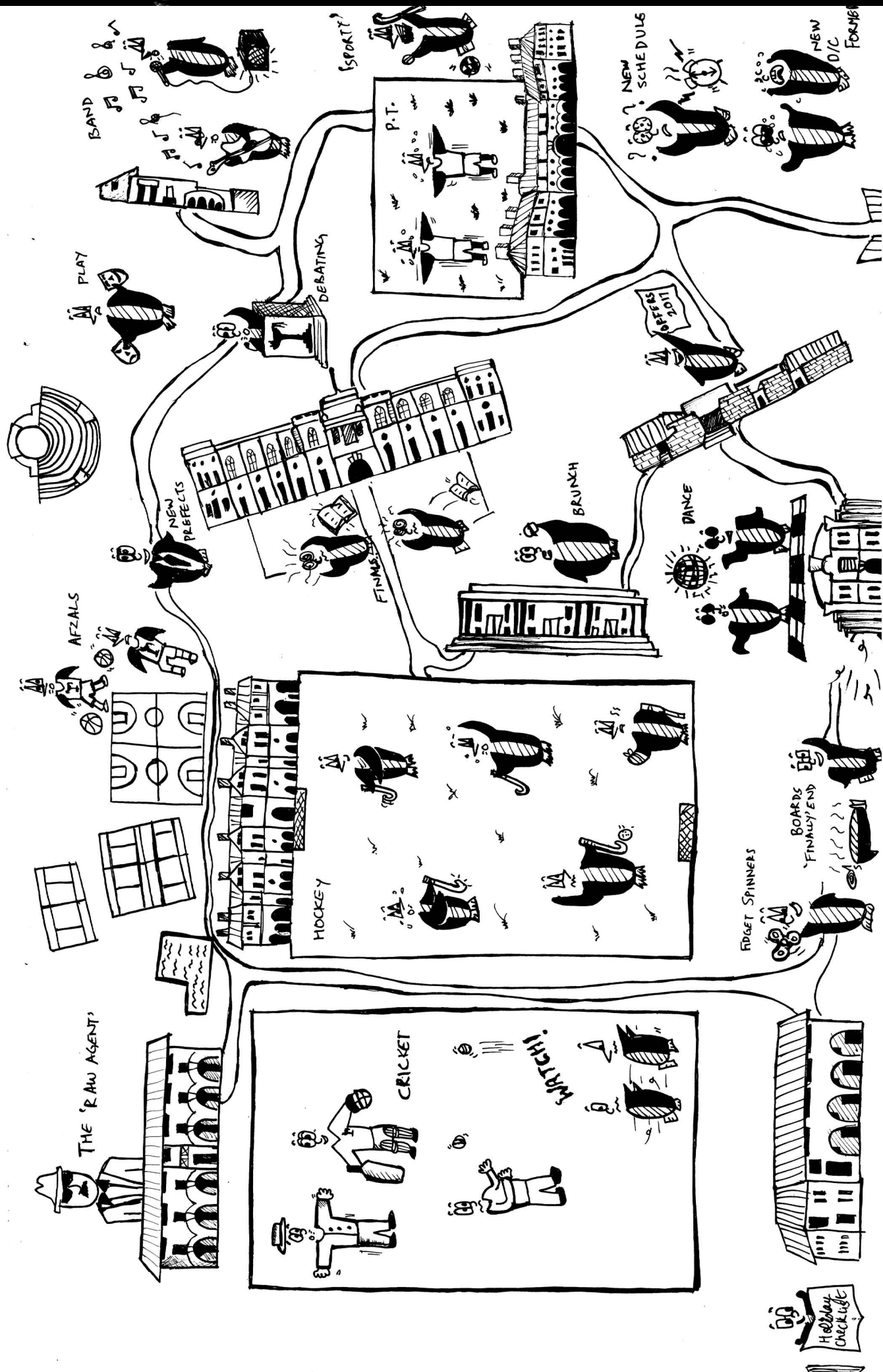
The School regrouped after that short Spring break to tackle a term which stretched us on several fronts; from PT and hockey to drama and dance, the last two months have exemplified the true extent of hard work and collectivism. The sweltering heat has since melted Chandbagh and lent some much needed impetus to the commemoration of Earth Day, with serious discussions of global warming. To our relief, construction and renovation had continued unabated while we were away, and the introduction of pantries in Houses helped satisfy the famously insatiable Dosco appetite.

April went by in a blur of whirling synchronised arms and shouted commands, creating a slightly martial air on campus. After a competition marked by military precision, Tata House secured the PT Gong - banging to victory with a clean sweep of the junior and senior cups as well. May saw battles amongst dance troupes, casts and crews, hockey elevens, and basketball teams (that's not all, for the Popular Band competition is yet to conclude the term on a charged note). The lithe grace displayed both on-courts and on-stage thrilled the audience, regardless of the eventual results. Kashmir House took home the Dance and Dramatics trophies, with performances that explored life in a globalised world and political satires (read *idiocracy*). In a fine display of School spirit, the roll of drums and roar of cheers marked the memorable final game of the Afzal Khan Tournament, which we had reached for the first time in over a decade.

While all this transpired, Doon's tireless landscaping team fought a hard battle against the sun to maintain well curated grounds for hockey games. Against all odds, the sprinklers triumphed and the Inter-House tournament was conducted smoothly, with high octane matches and free scoring virtuosos galore. The two senior juggernauts, Jaipur and Hyderabad, played out a much awaited finale to decide the Cup. Elsewhere, the grass wasn't the only yellow aspect of the campus; with a sudden end of term influx of YCs, rumour has it that the School was forced to print fresh cards to match demand.

As the term winded down, spells of rain worked some magic and boosted morale to keep the School trudging towards the finish line. The 'Internal Assessment' week helped soothe our workload, given the relative 'ease' with which we tackled our assessments. With that, we'd wish everyone a cool summer vacation, since we all desperately need it. As someone recently (and rightly) said: "holidays come a week too late!"





# The Cowards & Delinquents<sup>1</sup>

Mr 8.5<sup>2</sup> (aka Mr Debashish Chakrabarty) pens an academic exercise on writing.

**Disclaimer:** This article can very well be read without its italicised & underlined parts, which are slanderous, at best. By any standards this is a badly written article with limited structural and thematic unity—straddling many disjointed issues that perhaps, blend together only in the author’s mind. This is an academic exercise and calls upon the patience and humour of the SC-Form, since they are all aware of research writing protocols and they also know that true history always resides in the footnotes.

When the Chief Editor requested me to write to educate<sup>3</sup> the school community about not making unsubstantiated statements in their articles, I consented, and hence this article. Before we delve into the act of writing, one needs to understand context. As I tell my students, my *D-Form rough diamonds*<sup>4</sup>, no text can possibly exist without context. So, what does “School” mean? School, the noun, derives from Old English *scol* (a place for instruction). However, the verb, drawn from Middle Dutch *schole* and Old English *scolu* (troop) refers to “train, discipline and regiment someone in a particular skill or activity”. The modern “School” draws its connotation from the meanings, a place of learning where a student is disciplined and follows due regimentation. Likewise, democracy in School is, at best, an academic exercise for the students. True democracy requires someone to have adult franchise. The training may be meant for students, but the practice is for tax-paying, mature adults who understand the difference between rights and duties.

When *the prodigals of*<sup>5</sup> the present SC-Form *abuse the essential idea of democracy by hogging and*<sup>6</sup> seek to covet multiple positions of authority *only to discuss issues of extended internet time, so that they get extra Hotstar viewing time to catch up with the Game of Thrones or expand the punishment table, so that their abusive bullying habits are legitimised in the School Council; their attitude smacks of cowardice at best and this delinquency*,<sup>7</sup> it can only be considered to be a travesty of democratic principles. *Since it is popular knowledge that most SC-Formers are undisciplined*,<sup>8</sup> the SC-Form can only show itself to be mature, if it lives up to its promise that it made at the Prefect’s workshop-- to lead by example. *Since all students pay the same fees, SC-Form should not be exempt from the prefect’s punishment table. As what the Juniors are to SC-Form & Prefects, the latter are to the Masters—all masters should be allowed to punish the SC-Form and prefects from the same table. Let the SC-Form model “6-to-6” for the School community from July to October. After all, the Doscocs are known for their spirit of selfless-service.*

<sup>9</sup> Hence, the present SC-Form must, in the same spirit of service, *inherit*<sup>10</sup> their punishment table and the feedback from their *incessant*<sup>11</sup> modelling to the next SC-Form to implement. Now that would be leadership!

*The less said about being role-models, the better. Recently, it came to the author’s knowledge that The Doon School Cup is being given based on the following astonishing ratio—30:80:130 (Academic: Activity: Sport). This is funny because one thought we were still called “The Doon SCHOOL”. By these standards we should call ourselves “The Doon Summer Camp” with a by-line “We sometimes do academics, somewhat, like whatever...” This again is the result of the endorsement of the Right Honourable School Councils of the yesteryears, which again used to pride themselves on Democratic principles.*<sup>12</sup>

*The naiveté of the Chief Editor’s claim in his article “Editorial: To Edit, Not Censor” that “Calling for articles to entirely “not be published” is both intolerant and counterproductive, for it prevents us from finding common grounds on major issues...” is cute at best!*

<sup>13</sup> When articles are written in the same vein as this one, in the *Weekly* including the Editorials and “The Week Gone By”, then it is important to remember Code 17: “The Publisher and Masters-in-charge have the discretion to stop publication of any part of the *Weekly* if it is illegal, defamatory or injurious to the School.” Since the “School” is made of the community it houses, riding roughshod on its readerships’ sentiments does, at times, call for serious soul searching.

## Conclusion

This article demonstrates how dangerous the mix of unsubstantiated generalization, rumours, confused thinking and garbled writing can be. Even if there is a grain of truth in the arguments, it tends to get lost amidst all the noise. The author hopes never to have to construct such an article again. The *Weekly* Editorial team might consider a standard operating procedure where they draft out a form with all the Codes in checklist format and give it out to every writer. Only if all boxes are ticked does it go for publication. Ideally, a well-knit team should also bring its own sensitivity to add to the Codes, not erode the publication’s core values. Many of us are fairly at home with controversial opinions, just that the abrasive tenor is distressing.

## End Notes

<sup>1</sup> This is an example of the worst form of writing. This title, like “A Tale of Two Mafias” (The Doon School *Weekly*, Saturday, May 13, 2017, Issue No. 2468) resorts to deliberate distortion, provocation, stereotyping and derogatory writing. This goes against “The Journalistic Code of Ethics for The Doon School *Weekly*” as in Codes And Policies 2015 (all future references to Codes will indicate this specific code), Code 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9.

<sup>2</sup> The by-line is sacrosanct. It identifies the speaker and his/her opinion. By-lines using epithets or boasts of test scores both run afoul of Codes 3 & 5. E.g.: “Mr 36”?



<sup>3</sup> Deliberate misquote and distortion of private correspondence between the author and the Chief Editor. This runs afoul Codes # 2 & 10.

<sup>4</sup> This is a deliberate attempt at insulting the entire readership's intellect to that of the junior most form and also treating the little ones as objects—morally reprehensible form of writing and is a judgmental commentary. Violates Code #9

<sup>5</sup> Means “deliberately wasteful people”. Unnecessary and defamatory use of adjectives, runs afoul Codes 2,5 & 6.

<sup>6</sup> The tone is cynical and abusive indicating corrupt practices of the batch, which is unsubstantiated. Runs afoul Codes# 2, 5& 6.

<sup>7</sup> Horrible syntax with multiple repeated conjunctions, provocative content which is defamatory and derogatory, most critically it abuses the entire batch for possible machinations of few. Abuses codes 2, 5,6 & 7.

<sup>8</sup> Gross generalization and unsubstantiated. Most likely a lie? Yet stereotypes an entire batch. Violates Codes 5, 7 & 9.

<sup>9</sup> This is a syllogistic (simplistic) argument. Even if the argument is valid it is lost due to the mocking tone, that also sweepingly lampoons the spirit of service.

<sup>10</sup> Example of malapropism. The author most likely meant “bequeath”.

<sup>11</sup> Unnecessary use of adjective and vocabulary item. This requires “Editing”.

<sup>12</sup> This is an abusive, vicious paragraph, which does not use one abusive slang. Yet these opinions are violent, the tone is reprehensible, the ethics are unpardonable on many counts: one, the matter was decided by the various apex councils and if at all, it can be taken to the Councils rather than be made a subject of ridicule here. Two, it is not quite evident who is the object of ridicule here, it seems mischievously vague. Three, any decision regarding the name of the School is only the prerogative of the IPSS. Four, the “Summer at Doon” is a recognised activity and may not be satirised so nonchalantly. Such language and content is only worthy of Confession Pages, NOT, the *Weekly*. This paragraph most critically violates Code 8 along with many other codes.

<sup>13</sup> An absolutely unacceptable bit of writing that is condescending and pejorative in tone, intending to reduce the Chief Editor to something that he is certainly not. Violates Codes 6 & 9

#### **Editor's Note** (Vide Code 14)

*The Chief Editor thanks the author for his piece, which represents the forum for discussion that this publication (vide Objective 5) is expected to be. As he'd mentioned in his 'cute' Editorial (allowed by Code 17) in the last Issue, the Weekly would be willing to entertain any Letters to the Editor (again, vide Code 14) that aggrieved readers may have, which would be published in the forthcoming Issue next term.*

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## Under the Scanner

The Kulbhushan Jadhav Trial | **Kanishkh Kanodia**

Political ties between India and Pakistan have yet again been strained, with chants like “Bring back Kulbhushan Jadhav” and “Justice for Kulbhushan Jadhav” being raised in nearly every locality of India. So what is this conflict that has yet again filled the streets with posters and cries?

Last year in March, Kulbhushan Jadhav, an Indian national, was arrested in Pakistan, on charges of espionage and terrorism sponsored by the Research and Analysis Wing of India. Jadhav's illegal entry into the nation through Iran and possession of a fake passport were enough for counterintelligence forces in Pakistan to formally issue charges. In addition, the government of Pakistan released a confession tape, the legitimacy and credibility of which is still in question. Eventually, after a year of investigation and a trial, he was sentenced to death for having attempted to disrupt law and order in Karachi and Baluchistan.

India's response to the death penalty was instantaneous. Having been denied consular access to Jadhav sixteen times, India referred the case to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for reviewing the death penalty. India argued that Pakistan had violated the Vienna Convention on Consular Access and deemed the trial to be a ‘farce’. They also accused Pakistan of having kidnapped Jadhav and framing false charges. Pakistan, conversely, has pointed to a 2008 bilateral agreement on consular access with India, which allowed Pakistan to judge Jadhav's arrest on “its own merits”, also claiming the Vienna Convention was inapplicable to spies. As part of the trial, Jadhav's execution was temporarily halted by the ICJ pending a further verdict.

Incidents of innocent citizens stuck between two nations in the past are not uncommon. In my view, such hostility between leaders causes the common man to suffer, get beaten and tortured at the cost of geopolitics. The past is testament to such citizens, from both sides of the border, being persecuted on allegations of ‘spying’ and being treated like political pawns. Be it Sarabjit Singh or Sanaullah Haq, these prisoners have been failed by the system, and ended up being murdered whilst in prison. These are just two of a grievously long list, and let us hope that Kulbhushan Jadhav does not join them.

# A Mumbai Miracle

**Shiven Dewan** *reviews the recently concluded Indian Premier League.*

In 2008, the concept of club cricket was unknown to sport. Ten editions later, the Indian Premier League has battled its way to prominence as one of the world's most competitive sports leagues, dominating the television sets of cricket fans across seas every year.

No IPL feels complete without the resonating chants of “R-C-B!” around the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. The Kohli-ABD-Gayle trio ensure the stadium always brims with shades of red. This year, it was almost ironic that RCB couldn't even avoid the wooden spoon. The stalwarts with high hopes behind them failed miserably, with the team procuring a dismal three wins out of fourteen. Prior to the IPL, it would have been preposterous to think that a team studded with the ‘Big Three’ could have been shot out for a paltry 49 runs. But as with many things, cricket never ceases to amaze.

If there was the catastrophic fall of RCB, this IPL saw the miraculous resurrection of the Rising Pune Supergiants. After an excruciatingly slow start, Pune flipped their fortunes and went on a shocking winning



spree, helped by their newest player Ben Stokes. The ‘14.5 Crore buy’ was evidently worth every penny, with nonchalant murdering of the ball, characteristic crafty bowling and some impeccable work in the field. Aided by the consistency of Steve Smith, the rediscovered mojo of MS Dhoni and new talents in the form of Washington Sundar and Rahul Tripathi, Pune earned their spot in the final.

While RCB had taught the league that big names don't guarantee wins, the Delhi Daredevils were chalking out an opposite strategy. The inexperienced all-Indian top-order team looked promising on paper, but lacked experience on the field. ‘Consistently inconsistent’ as some termed it, the Daredevils never matched expectations. Another team unable to strike the right balance was the Gujarat Lions. The team's batsmen lineup intimidated most with the likes of seasoned players Brendon McCullum, Steven Smith, Aaron Finch and Suresh Raina, but which couldn't swing them to victory. A horrendous season for Ravindra Jadeja meant that Andrew Tye and Dwayne Bravo were profusely missed.

Sunrisers Hyderabad continued with a phenomenal opening partnership of Shikhar Dhawan and David Warner at the top of the order. Within the bowler-filled team, perhaps the wildcard of the tournament was unleashed: 18-year-old leg spinner Rashid Khan. The Afghan bamboozled the batsmen with his variations and formed a lethal partnership with Bhuvneshwar Kumar. Owing to their balanced team, Sunrisers performed admirably to make the playoffs where they, unfortunately, ran into the Kolkata Knight Riders. Another such team, well renowned for its well-struck balance between foreign and Indian players, was the Kings XI Punjab, yet their all-overseas batting line-up along with an unreliable pace quartet meant a shaky team. A fifth-place finish should be encouraging, considering that they were the coveted ‘wooden spoon’ holders last year.

One could be forgiven for thinking KKR to be the underdogs, once seven wickets went down, after which Sunil Narine would strut on to the Eden Gardens pitch. But this mystery spinner was an opener this year and the quintessential pinch hitter for the team. Images of him swatting the bowling over the covers are sure to haunt bowlers forever. A stable batting line-up supporting the explosive pair of Narine and Chris Lynn comprised Gautam Gambhir and Manish Pandey, who enhanced their reputation of a chasing the score when needed. The raucous chants of “KKR” that echoed across the massive stadium were justified by the impeccable bowling, which hardly put forward a wrong foot in the entire tournament. However, they too were knocked out pre-final.

However, the Mumbai Indians finally shed their undesirable tag of “slow starters” by winning eight out of their first ten matches- an unprecedented feat for them. Along with the immaculate finishing skills of the Pandya brothers, Jasprit Bumrah and Mitchell McClenaghan formed a cohesive bowling unit. The opening pair fired consistently and the resurgence of Nitish Rana did the team wonders. Keiron Pollard was back to his vintage best and Lasith Malinga was silently executing his innocuous slower Yorkers. It was inevitable that Mumbai would make the final. It was the Maharashtra Derby in the final, with Pune versus Mumbai. The two-time champions were up against a rookie team, and thought that history would repeat itself. Mumbai batted first, leaving their bowlers to finish the job later. Indeed, Pune had hopes after capping Mumbai at 129 runs, but the next innings proved a shocker: needing eleven from the last over, Pune made a mess of the over, and made Mumbai the champions – the match coming down to the last wire (or run). Indeed, the IPL has and will leave us speechless with hard-hitting surprises!

# A Tongueless India

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**Varen Talwar** *expresses the importance of preserving India's indigenous languages.*

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Humans have always needed to express their feelings, thoughts, emotions and opinions to each other – hence the popular dictum of man as a ‘social being’. In order to do this, man invented languages.

In the evolution of languages, those of particular area gradually spread and eventually became native to an entire nation. Many nations have been able to retain their native languages, but some have destroyed their linguistic heritage. India is, unfortunately, a very striking example of this type of nation.

In India, we claim to have a rich history and heritage, but speaking our national language, Hindi, is often looked down upon. A person speaking English is perceived by most as a modern, educated and intelligent individual while Hindi speakers are seen as ‘illiterate’ and backward individuals.

In India, it is widely believed that those who solely speak Hindi, and aren’t conversant in the English language, are one of the many reasons that stifle the global integration and development of our nation. They compare India to other developing nations such as China, where mass learning of foreign languages has enhanced the pace of economic growth.

The effects of this ideology can be seen as many schools adopt language policies to promote English and discourage students to speak in Hindi. In many instances, students are even punished for speaking their national language. In this, our School has stopped testing Hindi in the Entrance Exam, and we may see in the coming years that many batches of DoscOs won’t be proficient in our national language. Although Hindi is still taught in our school till A-Form, the new I.G.C.S.E. curriculum teaches Hindi from an international perspective, but not one grounded with completely Indian view. As a student, I’ve observed that the focus on linguistics is greater when compared to literature. Yet, literature remains an important component of language studies, and teaches us about the history and heritage of our country. Regardless of the curriculum, however, the real issue is one of our beliefs, where an astounding number of people take no pride in their regional or national language.

But there must be a reason to this, shouldn’t there? A major cause for this shift in the medium of conversation is the Charter Act of 1813, which was stated that westernized methods and English would be used for education in India instead of Sanskrit and Hindi. This Act by Lord Macaulay laid the beginning of the end for Indian languages, while English ascended to spotlight. Even after nearly 70 years of independence, I find it unfortunate that we cannot step out of Macaulay’s shadow and build our own national character.

I agree that English is needed in today’s globalised world and I do not imply that speaking English is bad. Speaking Hindi, though, is not bad either. At Doon and elsewhere, we should maintain our fluency in the language native to many of us. For doing so would lead to Hindi being lost in the huge sea of forgotten languages, and lose an aspect of India’s renowned culture and heritage.

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## In Pursuit of Tuck

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**Zoraver Mehta** *suggests reforms to the Tuck Shop System.*

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A Sunday morning; droopy eyes with freshly signed cheques race towards the School Tuck Shop. After two hours of pushing, shrieking and crawling, the embattled Dosco returns in triumph, not with food, but coupons. If he hopes to be successful, he must make this journey once more later in the day. After another hour (if luck favours) of continuous struggle he makes towards the house. The ‘mission’ is still far from over, a ‘raid’ being almost a certainty in such hungry times.

While the anecdote above is slightly exaggerated, I firmly believe that reforms to our current Tuck Shop system are imperative. Acknowledging the effort put in by both masters and boys to make our weekend much more fulsome, we can surely make the experience far more convenient for DoscOs so they may enjoy themselves while at the Tuck Shop. It should be a place for camaraderie, another ‘place to be’ in School, where DoscOs can sit and actually bond with one another.

For private outings, the money could instead directly be given to Housemasters, who would distribute it along with the outing chits. This will not only simplify the process to a great extent, but also pre-vent situations as explicated by the cartoon in the previous issue of the *Weekly*! Also, perhaps the Tuck Shop could serve other varieties of food such as cooked ‘Maggi’ or ‘Iced Tea’ as well. Only a joint effort from both masters and boys with cooperation from the administration will these proposals be workable. Such a system worked well in past decades. I would like to clarify that this is not an advocacy for luxury, but rather a worthwhile step which could facilitate camaraderie in School, something which the School authorities are rightly in pursuit of.

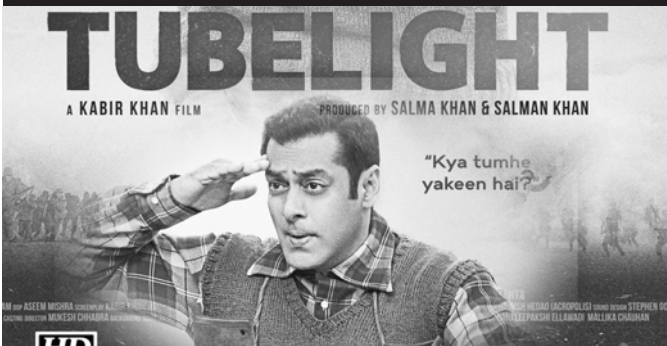


# The Holiday Checklist

The best things to read, watch, play and listen to this summer.

## Movies

The Mummy	June 9
Jagga Jasoos	July 14
Cars 3	June 16
Tubelight	June 23
Transformers: The Last Knight	June 23
Despicable Me 3	June 30



## Music

Witness	Katy Perry
Feed the Machine	Nickelback
Evolve	Imagine Dragon
Kaleidoscope	Coldplay
Heartbreak	Lady Antebellum
Funk Wav Bounces	Calvin Harris



## TV Shows

House of Cards (Season 5)	May 30
Orange is the New Black (Season 5)	June 9
Pretty Little Liars (Season 7)	June 27
Suits (Season 7)	July 12
Game of Thrones (Season 7)	July 16



## Video Games

Prey	May 5
Injustice 2	May 16
The Surge	May 16
Tekken 7	June 2
Final Fantasy XIV	June 20



## Sports

NBA Finals 2017	June 1-18
ICC Champions Trophy	June 1-19
UEFA Champions League Final	June 4
The Wimbledon Championships	July 3-16
British Grand Prix	July 14-16

## Books

Sita: Warrior of Mithila	Amish Tripathi
The Boy Who Loved	Durjoy Dutta
The Wise Parrot	Ruskin Bond
Operation Jinnah	Shiv Aroor
The Fix	David Baldacci

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