

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
May 26, 2018 | Issue No. 2506



THE END OF AN ERA

"Being a Housemaster, a part of the tutorial system, going for midterms and playing sports with the boys are my most treasured memories of School."

-
PBR

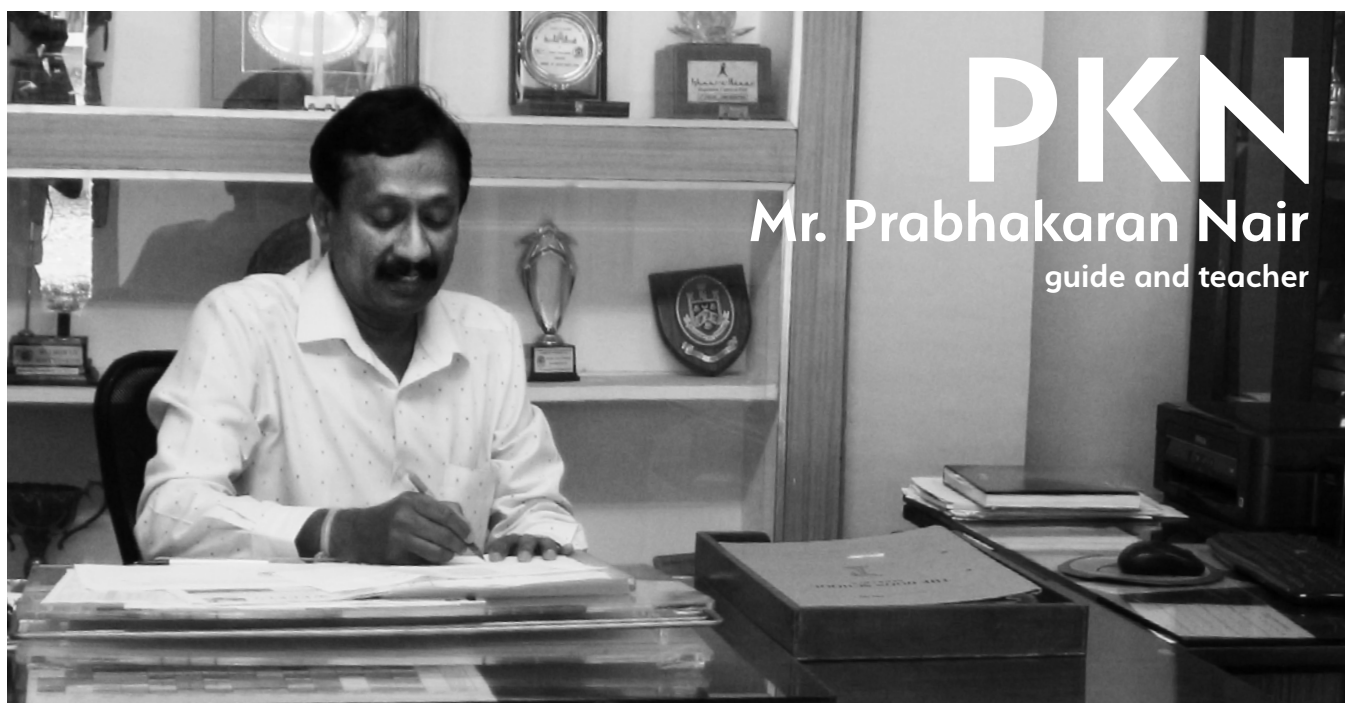
"Be honest and sincere about what you are doing. Don't imitate others. Whatever comes your way, take it positively, and commit yourself to the job."

-
PKN



PBR

Mr. Philip Burrett
friend and mentor



PKN

Mr. Prabhakaran Nair
guide and teacher

'The Sense of an Ending'

The Weekly interviewed the **Second Master** on his final thoughts before leaving School.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): During your tenure, which changes have you seen that impacted School the most?

Mr. Phillip Burrett (PBR): The examination system was a big change, with the introduction of the IBDP and the phasing out of the ICSE in favour of the IGCSE was a big decision.

Oberoï House being introduced was another major change; it affected the way School functioned entirely. Take for example Inter-House sports competitions; they were each a six-day affair. Now these competitions are ten-day affairs.

In terms of culture, not much has changed. The hierarchy is still present, so are the games, the inter-house enthusiasm, the cheering and the slogans as I think it should be. DoscOs are still courteous to ladies, still charming and polite. One good thing that I have seen is that students have started wishing teachers more often. Another positive is the removal of lingo like 'l---' or 'spaz'. These are words which pulled the boys down and were outright insulting. We have become a more humane, gentler School and gone is the cruel bullying and fear that existed. This shift to being a kinder, less punitive environment has been in large part the continued work of Messers Das, Mason, Bajpai and Raggett and all the teachers - I remember well the Assembly where Mr Mason told the boys that he wanted to rule out of School a four letter word that began with F and then proceeded to spell it out over the mike, F- E- A- R!

The academic drive towards excellence began in the Nineties as before that an average of 75% was the norm. The evolution of the Careers Department has played a big part in the desire to get to

the best colleges abroad and in India. Colleges have become such an important factor in a student's life, that much of the SC form year is spent on SATs, ACTs and getting 'Recos' done etc. . This has resulted in fewer seniors participating in School teams. Which School team today has more than half the players from SC form? When I joined School, anyone below SC form had little or no chance of managing the senior team. The increased pressure of exams has made seniors opt out of competitive sports. In contrast, extracurricular activities have gained more importance. When I was new to School, there were only a few boys who would head off in a bus for social service once a fortnight. On the other hand, look at the number of service opportunities and initiatives started by boys in the service of the community today.

DSW: What do you think sets us and our School apart from counterparts in India?

PBR: It is the sense of responsibility that boys have for all that goes on in School. They actually sort-of run this School. Boys are at the forefront, guided in the background by teachers. The other schools function with the teachers leading in the front and boys bringing up the rear. You can't have the One-act Play competition without the whole team of boys working and practising on their own. The boys work in School for School - and that is what makes Doon special.

There is a sense of ownership in the running of functions, events and programmes. This School can run even without the senior ten members of staff away. It's got a momentum and culture that the founding Heads have put in place. We are also a very service-oriented

school. I realised this when I learned how much the Old Boys do for School and society after they leave School.. Other schools might be similar to Doon, some of them are good at sports, some at studies - students may all have fluffed up CVs, but their sense of community, trust and mutual respect between student and teacher will be missing. Our commitment to being a part of a community is what makes us special.

DSW: What are your fondest memories of the boys and masters of School?

PBR: Apart from being very grateful for having lived on this amazing campus, the things I love the most about School were my classes, Mid Terms and sports. I will always keep my memories of Mid Terms very close to me. The second thing is the culture of sports in School. In any other school, teachers hardly join their students like we do here. I have really enjoyed playing a lot of cricket, hockey and soccer with the boys. Of course, my primary love was teaching.

There was a time when I had to travel 15 kilometers to reach School, here I lived two minutes from my class. All of these things constitute my fondest memories of School. Of course, there was my housemastership as well. That is one thing I have enjoyed the most - much more than becoming Deputy Headmaster or Second Master. It was being a Housemaster. One of the highlights of my career has been my closeness to boys. I knew my boys as well as I knew my own children. For me - being a Housemaster, a part of the tutorial system, going for Mid Terms and playing sports with the boys are my most treasured memories of School.



burrett speak

What have your experiences with Mr. Philip Burrett been like?

I am going to miss PBRs warmth, wisdom and care for the boys and the masters of the school. With 33 years at Doon, PBR has known so much about so many and he has an understanding of the place that has helped my understanding grow. The same is true of his experience of life, family and responsibility. PBR is a mentor, guide and friend.

- Mr. Matthew Raggett

I first got acquainted with PBR in my D-Form Geography class. It was much to my excitement that Sir was my tutor in C-Form! In my entire life, I have never come across someone as versatile and congenial as Sir. Our love for him, as a tutorial group, was evident in the 'unconventional' farewell we gave him all those years ago (which I'm certain Sir remembers)! From holding my hand as a C-Former to overseeing my (hopefully) improved maturity as an SC-Former, Sir has done it all for me and will be sorely missed...

- Shiven Dewan and the Kashmir House SC-Form

PBR is a remarkable colleague who has spent over 30 years at Doon, serving in various capacities in almost every area of the boys' and masters' life at Doon. The roles that he played have really made a big difference in the workplace, especially when it comes to meeting, and sometimes exceeding, the goals that we at Chandbagh set for ourselves.

- Ms. Purnima Dutta

A calm, composed gentleman who was always a constant source of motivation. At a personal level, our bond extended beyond the confines of a classroom, and our point of connect was mainly the sports field. His passion and enthusiasm and his will to serve the school have earned him the revered stature that he will continue to hold for aeons to come. It's been a pleasure working with you sir, thank you so much!

- Viksit Verma

You know, how they ask- "if you were ever marooned on an island, who would you choose to have with you?" Hand to heart, I'd say Naomi Campbell or Audrey Hepburn.... but PBR would come a close second, or third!

And that would be for a host of reasons- his inherent good nature, engaging conversations, fabulous sense of humour and mostly, his ability to constantly reinvent himself- over and over again. I guess The Doon School is an island as well. Or perhaps an oasis. Maybe its more of an estuary or a conflux, where in diverse people and ideas come together and create something truly unique.

PBR, of course, would narrate to you a rib- tickling anecdote from his life about islands or oases or estuaries. He would then proceed to expound at length (with his characteristic wit and wisdom) about the differences, advantages and disadvantages between them, pat you on shoulder and exhort you to do some cycling or running with him. "Thus endeth the lesson!"

Replace estuary with football, politics, literature, education, anything under the sun, really – and PBR would have a similar conversation with you; as he has had, with generations of boys and masters at The Doon School.

Schools such as ours are a living legacy. Over the years, some Masters have had indelible and enduring impacts on the people, traditions and DNA of Chandbagh. Assuredly, PBR joins this haloed group in the firmament of Doon School's history. He will be remembered by generations of DoscOs for the quintessential public school Master that he is- for his warmth, his empathy, his sagacity, good humour and sense of wonder and adventure!

- Mr. Mohit Sinha

nair speak

What have your experiences with Mr. Prabhakaran Nair been like?

Working with and getting to know PK over the last two years has been one of the most wonderful pleasures. I have learned more about Indian mythology, history and politics from him than from the contents of the bookshelves in my office. I have felt the warmth and care of his wisdom and and humour and I know that I will miss him very much when he goes. No shortage of entertainment PK!

- Mr. Matthew Raggett

I wish you all the best in your new assignment PK. Your honesty, integrity and simplicity have touched me. I shall miss seeing you and Sudha on the evening walks. Thanks for the fun, laughter, camaraderie and support over the last 30 years.

- Mr. Philip Burrett

A neighbour for a decade who truly cared about this institution. A human being with impeccable credibility who always had the courage to express himself in his own terms. An intelligent thinker who was always willing to stand up for everybody and had abundance of alternatives in his repertoire. Thank you sir!"

- Mr. Anjan Choudhury

Mr. Nair isn't just a teacher, he is more than a friend to all of us. He knows very well how to tackle every situation. He always taught us to follow discipline and etiquette. More than bookish knowledge he gave us lessons for life too. He taught us to be happy and calm always and in every situation. His great sense of humour will be missed by all of us especially during staff workshops.

- Mr. Arvind Dethe

Mr. Nair is an inspiration for many teachers and DOSCOS. He proved that one can achieve respect and high positions by fairness and positivity. An excellent teacher, mentor, and senior, who was a bridge between teaching staff members, Students, and administrative staff. He is a true Indian teacher who has great love and respect for our country and our traditions.

- Mr. Ambikesh Shukla

I have had the pleasure and opportunity to work closely with Mr. Nair in different capacities over the last twenty years. He is a reservoir of knowledge and I have learnt more from him about our surrounding communities than from any other source. I will fondly remember him for having ability to effectively deal with all types of situations and for treating everyone with respect and fairness.

- Mr. Kamal Ahuja

Farewell to a Friend

Mr Sukhdev Bhatia (SDB) joined The Doon School as Assistant Master in the Mathematics Department in July 1978. A loving and sensitive person, Mr Bhatia was the founding housemaster of Oberoi B, the youngest house in School at the time.

After working for 31 years, Mr Bhatia took early retirement in May 2009 due to poor health. Since then, he had been staying in Gurgaon with his son Gagan, till he passed away on the 17th of this month. On behalf of the School, we extend our condolences to all members of his family.

May his soul rest in peace.



Mr. Sukhdev Bhatia

A New Beginning

The Weekly interviewed the Assistant Headmaster on his final thoughts before leaving School.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Could you tell us a little bit about your journey through School, and what it's been like?

Mr. Prabhakaran Nair (PKN): While working in a public school in Ooty, I came to know from an advertisement in the Times of India that Doon was looking for a geography teacher and I applied. The then Headmaster, Gulab Ramchandani called me for an interview in January 1988. I joined sometime in late July the same year, as a replacement for Sumer Singh, who had left to become the Headmaster of Sanawar.

After working with the AV Squad and a Social Service project for a few years, I was appointed as Housemaster of Martyn House, followed by a short stint as HOD of humanities. Then during Mr. Mason's time, I was appointed as Oberoi House Housemaster, and in 2005 I was appointed the Dean of Studies. At this time, I remember we were discussing whether the School should adopt the IB, and it took about three years of discussion until we introduced it. I was given the opportunity to express my own view and my perspective, which is what made my job a very satisfying one as well.

One thing that is very important and something I deeply admire is that the children that I taught in the Eighties have now sent their children, as their second generation arrives. It makes me very proud and satisfied that my students' children are now also my students, and they relate to me the same way their uncles and fathers did. That is something very touching.

I have also been Assistant Headmaster for the last five years and I feel it is now time for me to move on. Apart from saying thanks, I wish the School many

more fruitful years ahead.

DSW: During your time here, who have been some of the teachers and students that have impacted your stay here?

PKN: Of course Mr. Shomie Das, technically my first headmaster (I was appointed during his tenure as the Headmaster) who used to support me greatly. He really helped me settle down, since I was not really happy at first, as I could not fit in. You see, I am from a completely different background, in terms of climate and working conditions it was completely different. But Shomie really helped me. Mr. John Mason, the next Headmaster, also supported and guided me. Then Dr. Kanti Bajpai really helped and supported me; he gave me a lot of focus and advice which really helped. Finally, the present Headmaster Mr. Mathew, who is extremely friendly and approachable, is also someone I really get along with well.

DSW: Looking back at your time spent here, what about this place would want people to know?

PKN: Two things that stand out: number one is having a better approach, and number two is risk taking. Another great thing about the place is loyalty. If you look at it, Doon School boys are very loyal to their institution. If not all, most of them are. For me too, the sense of belongingness, a sense of loyalty to the institution where I work, a sense of pride. For me it's not loyalty as such, it's pride. A sense of pride and respect for this institution is something I would have people know, and this place has taught me how to deal with change, how to work with a purpose, and be proactive.

DSW: What do you think makes the student-teacher relationship so special in Doon?

PKN: It is because of the tutorial system. You have people who feel that the tutorial system is not very effective, but by and large, I feel that it is because it depends on the students and the tutors, and how they make use of the multiple opportunities to be in touch. We meet our teachers regularly at mealtimes, we go for mid-terms, we have games and sports together, these are the binding factors. It's not what we study in the class, or what formula or curriculum, it is the life beyond the classroom which makes us interact. If I asked you who is the teacher you are closest to? It may be your activity teacher; it may be someone who works with you on your team, someone who guides you in your *Weekly*, you will have more time with them than some of the other teachers who are teaching you. That doesn't mean teaching and learning are not important, they are as important as everything else. but in a few years, you won't remember the times you studied in chemistry class, the times PKN taught you geography, but you will remember the times you spent with your teacher, the times you spent on the Main Field, the mid-term treks, the problems you solved in those days. Without those, you have no relationship, you have nothing to remember.

DSW: Lastly, what are the parting words you would like to say to the boys of our School?

PKN: Be honest and sincere about what you are doing, and be what you are, don't imitate others. Whatever comes your way take it positively, and commit yourself to the job, the rest is a journey. There are a lot of things in this world that are beyond your control, so don't try to control everything, do the best you can in everything you do and be proud of what you do.

The Rosie's Magic

Bipasha (61-J, 2014) | *Inter House One Act Play 2018*

Two otherwise nondescript nights, became two nights where the Rose Bowl came alive, and we, at Chandbagh, met a motley bunch of characters from five different worlds.

It all began with us being invited to peep into the posh flat, of a not-so-posh sculptor, on a night where everything went terribly wrong for the poor fellow. We laughed at him, and felt sorry for the hapless characters and his misfortunes. It was amusing to witness his docile fiancé, and a rather strange bunch of neighbors. I think I especially enjoyed the company of Ms. Daruwallah!

Once they left, the Rosie conjured up scenes from the life of an anguished writer, Katurian, and his brother, Michael. In this topsy-turvy land, the two inspectors interrogating Katurian, though hardly voices of reason, seemed to be the only normal people around. His poignant tale, with magical audio-visual effects, moved me to tears.

Two other anguished souls followed the writer, two friends—scholarly, prideful Jean, and the simple, gentle drunkard Bèrenger. The cleverly crafted story converted the Rosie into an absurd land, where people were transforming into rhinoceroses. The friends' ill-fated struggle to resist being infected by this dreadful affliction, 'rhinocertitis', left me sadder than Katurian's life had. While some highbrow exchanges did leave me in splits, Jean and Bèrenger left me thinking about how easily we fall prey to the disease of accepting popular opinions, unquestioningly.

The next evening, I could not wait to go back to the Rose Bowl, to see what new stories would unfold with meticulous execution. Sure enough, as I crept up the stairs, I ran into the queerest family, who were going to meet their soldier son manning a lonely station, for a picnic, on a battlefield! Their son, Zapo, was a lovely boy, languishing all alone, with only the resounding clatter of gunshots to keep him company. An unsettling ending to the tale, and the flustered medics—who were disappointed every time enemy fire did not did not kill anyone—ensured that my profound feeling of unease had not dissipated.

As I got up to leave, the captivating ways of a beautiful media tycoon, the wily Maya, made me stop in my tracks. The Rosie had one last story to tell—that of Maya's abduction. Her bumbling abductors (especially the littlest one), a fraudulent sadhu, and Maya's mother—with her conniving ways—were all as captivating as Maya, herself. Her tale left me smiling. And I wondered whether people like Maya and her mother really do exist. (I think Maya's mother scared me more than Katurian's unnerving ways had, really.)

After an explosive ending, the Rose Bowl faded into silence.

The Rose Bowl is a strange and magical space. Once a year, for two nights, the Rosie works its magic to transform awkward boys with runny noses into confident colonels, eccentric writers; into beautiful media tycoons, sultry ex-flames and endearing Parsi ladies. And that is exactly what had happened, again!

I had enjoyed all five stories, immensely, and I felt proud to belong to a community where young people were sensitive and brave, and had picked such relevant tales to tell. I do not remember who won, or who lost, for that part of the night was hardly of any importance. What stayed with me was the magic of the stories and the stage.

You, Not Me

Armaan Verma

They were the ones we barked at,
Yes. Let peace abound and embrace us,
i'm glad They leave us, it makes my heart
Feel free and my head untroubled.
Begone, begone, we bark again,
No more torment,
The pack of sled dogs runs wild,
In lieu of the whip cracks at their backs
What troubles do i have now?

But what of the wounds that bleed us?
Why am i alone? Who could have known
That we bit the hands that feed us?

i scarce miss the beatings and red marks
But They left Their marks and left us too?
Those fiends! How dare They?
Who will make my heart feel free,
my head untroubled?
It was You.
You, not me, not we.
You drove them out with sharp knives
And sharper words.
You broke Them with your pedagogies,
You drowned Them in burning hypocrisy,
You cut Them out like scabs
And now my blood flows.
Like the twilit sky we bleed,
Perhaps, then, it really was 'we'.
Did we do this together, You and me?

NOW WHAT OF THE WOUNDS THAT BLEED
US?

WHY AM i ALONE? WHO COULD HAVE
KNOWN
THAT WE BIT THEM,
WE BIT THE HANDS THAT FEED US!



Yo-Yoing Between the Ridiculous and Sublime

Ms. Priyanka Bhattacharya reviews the *Inter-House One Act Play Competition*.

If you have lived in Chandbagh reasonably long, you must have marvelled at our annual ritual, the one-act play competition, where the entire house throws its might behind the cast and crew of their production. Brochure designers, canvas artists, sound and light specialists, guardians of props and wigs and dresses and shoes, and Lord knows which other practitioners of the Dark Arts magically pull along a production on invisible wheels. This year was no different: five intellectually and theatrically challenging plays ensured that we sometimes forgot to breathe, and sometimes to applaud the wild and wonderful offerings on stage.

Oberoi House must be applauded for their lush and lively production of Peter Shaffer's *Black Comedy*. The split level stage, the inverse lighting, the perfect comic timing, the toppling and jostling characters in the "dark", and the razor-sharp dialogues had us in splits. Kanishkh Kanodia and Abhyanshu Uttkarsh, take a bow not only for your efforts on stage, but also for your poster with its 5 layered symbols of the bulb, the pipe, the "gay" rings, the blood-splattered sofa and the candlesticks. As much care was taken with the sets, the costumes and the editing of the script. We particularly loved the borrowing of elegant innuendo from Shakespeare, that had the A form blushing in their seats! We shall remember Sanidhya Gautam as Miss Persis Daruwala for a while, as will we giggle when we recall the flamboyant Lorcan Conlon as Jai Jauhar, the hapless boyfriend who gets betrayed on all counts in one night.

Hyderabad House were up next with the terrifyingly absurd and dystopic world of *The Pillowman*. The cold menace of police officials Moulik Seth and Manandeep Singh, the passionate versatility of Aarsh Ashdhir as the neurotic author Katurian, and the innocent eccentricity of Adithya Kapoor as the simpleton Michael, was a rare treat. Compact and chilling, it drained blood from the hearts of the

viewers. We saw the normalisation of violence across all domains: the private, interpersonal, as well as that inflicted by a repressive State. We loved the contrast between the poster and the brochure, as well as the evocative sets. Aarsh's bloody nose will haunt us for a while...well done, Adithya Kapoor and Mahir Kasewal!

If the *Pillowman* had not terrified us enough, we had to contend with an equally dark and absurd moral universe—that of Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, staged by Jaipur House. Yash Dewan and Yashmit Sutodia brought alive an intensely political play set in the context of resurfacing Nazism of the 1950s. Aryan Bhattacharjee as the idealistic and wildly passionate Berenger, and Sidhant Shyam as Jean will go down in the Rosie Hall of Fame for pulling off one of the most intense scenes we have seen. Jean's terrifying metamorphosis into a rhino sent shivers down many a D form spine, I am sure. We also loved the poster, in which a red tie was transformed into the fascist armband of the Giant shadow, as well as the *Rhinoceros* toon with Shyam's Horns in the azure brochure, which were as balanced as the memorable cameos of the Logician (Reddy) and the waitress (Aayush) or Daisy (Aditya). We will remember the rhino masks for a while, as also the compelling moral question, do we dare resist the lure of the rhino mask?

On the second day, Kashmir opened the show with their poignant and powerful anti-war play, Fernando Arrabal's *Picnic on the Battlefield*. The absurd treatment of the futility of war was sensitively interpreted by Hamza Hussain and Shourya Maan: the visual language of stick figures and toy-like pawns in the poster found resonance in the consistent language in the brochure and then again in the play. Hamza Husain and Armaan Thapar were stick figures, or "enemy" soldiers we all fell in love with, for their innocence and vulnerability. Aadita Chauhan's petite presence lit up the Rose Bowl, counterpointed by Kartik Rathore's loud boisterous self. The bare

continued overleaf.

continued from previous page.

set, the sandbags, the scratchy gramophone music, accompanied by merry dancing and the sudden gunfire that brings the picnic to a tragic end will be remembered for a long time to come.

Finally, it was Tata's turn to astonish and entertain, with their adaptation of Dario Fo's *Abducting Diana*. The risqué opening scene sent pulses racing and jaws dropping to the ground! Nirvair Singh as the super-intelligent and attractive media boss Maya carried off the role with flair and conviction. The hapless

abductors, among them Director Milind Khemka nailing it with a mask and young Sudhir Chowdhry romancing a refrigerator, among other things, stole the hearts of the audience with their antics. The plot twists and turns, complete with a fake Godman and avaricious mother in a sizzling subplot had us clutching our sides with laughter.

Who won, you ask? We did! As audience, we were thoroughly entertained, disturbed, provoked, moved and exhilarated. What more can one ask for?

The Term Gone By

Divyansh Nautiyal and Sriraman Goel

The term began with the back-to-School proceedings of a horrifyingly efficient 'tuck check', the usual who's-going-to-be-a-prefect gossip and the exhilarating School Captain Elections. Probably 'burning the midnight lamp' proved tough for ATs and SCLs, as they bore the tyranny of the freezing and foggy weather of January. If nothing else, then soup and Maggi never fell short of supporting the DoscOs in such testing times. However, the run up to Boards saw numerous DoscOs seeking safe haven back at home, while a few daredevils stayed back in School ardently promising to study.

The term having thus gained momentum turned into a flurry of activity (no, it's not Activity Week yet), with the beginning of PT and the onset of the much awaited Inter-House Cricket Competition. As winter melted into spring, the School made sure to bring controversy and debate back into the *Weekly* with the rage against tradition and once again, PT. The Rose Bowl saw then, and much too soon, the SCL's farewell and the strains of both Auld Lang Syne and the comic Music with Masters in the days soon after.

As Trials neared, Frisbees could be seen flying high while the AT-Formers began dreaming of their break and the SCL's said their last goodbyes. At the end of the death

zone innocently termed 'Trials', the School geared up for Midterms.

Of course, back after the time spent in the wilderness, the *Freaky* was released with a special announcement in the CDH. The D-Form were also introduced to School that night, beginning a truly crazy journey. Finally, we arrive at the magnificent Activity Week. From the JEDI tournament to the Intra-School Junior MUN to the Social Service Fair, the Activity Week saw enough activities to keep any Dosco busy. The week was brought to an end with the release of Issue No. 2500 of this very publication. Amidst all this, the Dosco penguin successfully managed to sleep and binge-watch movies to their heart's content.

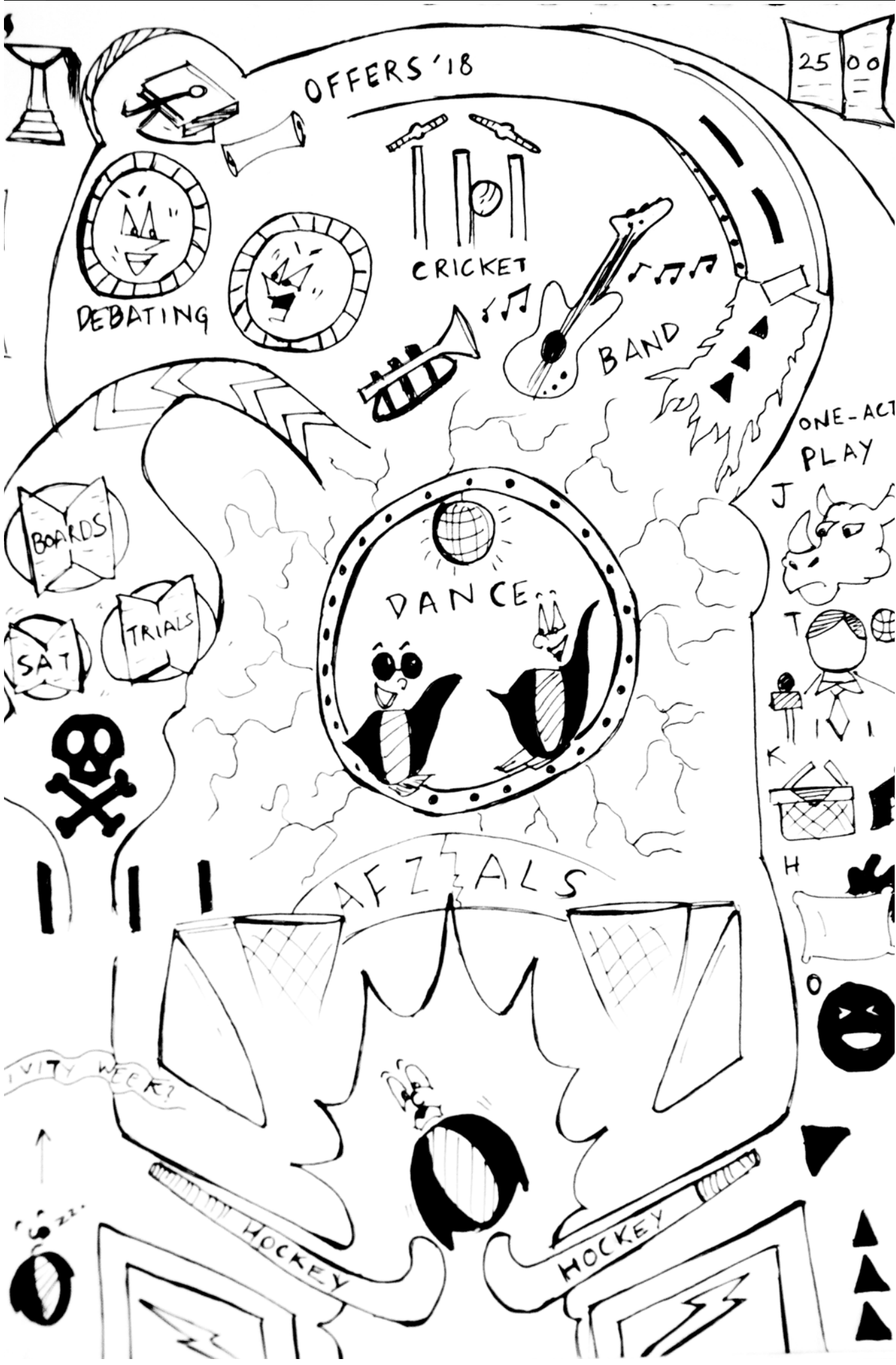
With the conclusion of No-Activity Week, the School finally got to work and DoscOs engaged themselves in various pursuits. As the growing warmth mingled with the sound of 'cracks' across Main Field in the latter half of the term, the Hockey season commenced with much enthusiasm. The School Hockey Team was spectacular and narrowly missed out from clinching a Cup across the season. Inter House Hockey too witnessed heated matches, last minute saves and unbelievable come backs. The Afzal Khan Basketball Tournament also saw a fierce battle for the Cup where the DoscOs lost by a narrow margin. On the co-curricular front,

the term witnessed mesmerizing performances in Dance, Drama, Debating and (soon to be seen) Band; all packed together. As the Boards result flooded School, there was an air of tension bringing on mixed feelings in the newly crowned S-Formers. But once again, the results seen were better than the previous years' outcome, and led to an apt ending to the era of ICSE in School. The School experienced the controversial 'No Punishment Week' too, which translated into cheering being seen not only on the field and the courts but also in the MPH. Heat, the term's uninvited guest, simply refused to leave the campus, giving players a tough time on and off the field. This developed to the extent that 'changes' and afternoon practices came to a grinding halt due to the overbearing heat.

The term finally (and literally) boiled down to the Assessment Week, which saw DoscOs with a slack smile on their faces. As DoscOs prepare to bid goodbyes to each other for a long summer, the term also bids farewell to the longstanding journeys of two beloved Masters in School. To conclude, , do take a quick look through the Holiday Checklist and have a fruitful (read: relaxed) summer. Or, if you are the working type, gear up for S form second term!

Dosco Doodle

The Term Gone By
Pratham Bansal



God's Plan Sin

Arjun Singh (364-H, 2018) writes on the increasing popularity of Rap Music as a genre.

She say, "Do you love me?" I tell her, "Only partly"...I only love my bed and my momma, I'm sorry.

Walking through a boarding house nowadays, it's impossible to not recognize these lyrics. Be it from a senior's Mac, House Feast Jam Sessions, bathroom loudspeakers or ubiquitous iPhones...the tunes of Drake's God's Plan have flooded the airwaves across campus.

Popular as it is, God's Plan is one among many that will soon be replaced by another hit single in a predictable cycle. The only constant remaining is the craze for that genre: rap – a juggernaut in the music industry, and minds of people all over the world.

With scintillating beats and innovative, sometimes savage (slang translation: skewering) rhymes, rap has struck a chord with millions globally. For some quantification, Spotify and Apple Music estimate rap as having, worldwide, more online streams (piracy not included) than pop and rock music combined.

Causing concern, however, is the sheer reach that rap commands – its appeal crossing all borders of nationality, religion and culture to form a truly global fan base. In context, given the world's current divisions, it has earned total immunity from almost all criticism. Indeed; no successful politician, religious purist or even right-wing ideologues have dared to attack rap without facing widespread condemnation. Clearly, rap has an influence that is impenetrable in today's world.

Might go down as G.O.D., yeah, wait – I go hard on Southside G, ay, wait

Looking closely at the rap craze, its popularity seems quite clear-cut. As with all music, humans are hardwired to favour patterns in music; with rap's experimentation with rhythms piquing our interest in new beats and styles.

More significant, though, are the themes that mainstream rap addresses – the most common being the Black male's rags-to-riches success story. Arising from its original intent to boost the morale of African-Americans in poverty in the 1970s, it commonly ends with 'power, fame and hoes'. While this theme has recurred, contemporary rap has become an outlet for Western political commentary: discussing class struggles, police brutality and racism, among other things. The labels of Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar's DAMN. and the famous Niggaz Wit Attitudes (recall Straight Outta Compton) have epitomized the function of rap music as a mode of protest.

But....Bad things – It's a lot of bad things – That they wishin' and wishin'...

Meanwhile, the political portrayals have gradually

become subsumed by rampant misogyny– either outright or laced within lyrics, and especially evident in music videos. Habitual references to women as sluts and gold-diggers and ultra-arrogant chauvinism – in the form of dissing (slang translation: disrespecting) them – are some variants of such misogyny. Shamefully, the designation of hoe (i.e. a personal prostitute of the alpha male rapper) portrays women as being akin to sexual objects. Similarly nefarious themes include gun and gang violence, drugs and the like– all of which are depicted positively by male and even female rappers alike.

Amidst all this, even in a world of hashtag movements (#MeToo, #TimesUp, #NeverAgain) constantly dotting our screens, today's youth have hypocritically accepted rap's unholy trinity of pussy-money-weed as being 'cool' and continued to enjoy the music. In this, DoscOs stand equally complicit in giving such music a place on their hard-drives – relenting to the eccentric charms of rap's toxic masculinity while undermining values of equality; gender or otherwise.

Hope I got some brothers that outlive me – They gon' tell the story, shit was different with me...

At this juncture, the 'story' of rap music is one of rising to popularity of Rap threatens to desensitize us to its insidious messages. This realization, however, will not alter the market logic which will continue to popularize Rap's content unabated. It would, however, be prudent to stay wary of the condemnable themes evoked while appreciating the rich heritage of African-American music.

God's Plan, God's Plan.

CORRIGENDUM | ISSUE NO. 2505

In last week's edition of the *Weekly*, the Under the Scanner did not include the following information: Since, there was no clear winner in the Karnataka Elections, a coalition between JD (S) and Congress was favourably formed to attain a majority in the House. The BJP was allowed by the Governor to prove their majority in the House within a time span of fifteen days. However, this was fiercely opposed by the Congress through a petition in the Supreme Court which reduced the time span to a mere two days for the BJP. Realising that the BJP had no chances of a victory any more, B.S. Yeddyurappa unexpectedly (BJP's chief ministerial candidate) resigned - in an emotional speech - right before his trust vote. The unexpected change in events led to a win for Congress and JD(S), with their Chief Ministerial candidate, H.D. Kumaraswamy being sworn in on 23rd May. The *Weekly* regrets this error.

SPORTING SUPREMACY

Ishan Roy and Adhiraj Singh have been awarded the **Games Blazer**.

Congratulations!

A FRESH START

Mr. Kamal Ahuja has been appointed the **Assistant Headmaster**.

Ms. Stuti Kuthiala has been appointed the **Deputy Head (Pastoral)**.

We wish them fruitful tenures!

COMPLICATED COMPUTATIONS

School participated in the **Canadian Computing Competition**, organized by the **University of Waterloo**. Abhiraj Lamba and Devang Laddha received the **Certificate of Distinction**.

Congratulations!

KEYNESIAN ARGUMENTATION

Following are the results of the **Economics Essay Writing Contest**:

- 1st: Devang Laddha
- 2nd: Anuman Goel
- 3rd: Kunal Gupta

Well done!



Let us always meet each other with smile, for
the smile is the beginning of love.

Mother Teresa

ABSURD THEATRICALS

Following are the results of the **Inter-House One Act Play** competition:

- 1st: Jaipur
- 2nd: Tata
- 3rd: Kashmir
- 4th: Hyderabad
- 5th: Oberoi

Aarsh Ashdhir was adjudged the **Best Actor** while Sidhant Shyam won the award for the **Best Supporting Actor**. Yash Dewan was awarded the trophy for the **Best Director**.

Well done!

THE GREATEST SHOW

Following are the results of the **Inter-House Dance** competition:

- 1st: Hyderabad
- 2nd: Tata
- 3rd: Kashmir
- 4th: Oberoi
- 5th: Jaipur

Kudos!

Around the World in 80 Words

A passenger aircraft crashed shortly after takeoff from Havana and killed 111 people. After an accidental detonation of explosives 16 people died in Kandahar, Afghanistan. President Nicolás Maduro won the Presidential elections in Venezuela. A school shooting took place at Santa Fe High School in Texas, eight students and two teachers were killed. Chennai Super Kings defeated Sunrisers Hyderabad and progressed to the final of the Indian Premier League. Chelsea won the FA Cup finals after defeating Manchester United, 1-0.

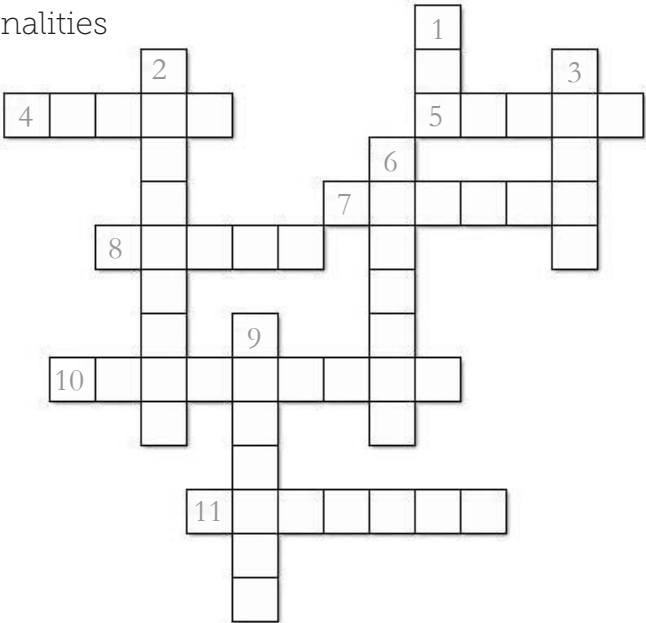
Crossword | Famous Sports Personalities

Across

4. Famous 4- time MVP took up to professional basketball after his football career ended because of a broken wrist.
5. In the history of Cricket, this nation has been the only to win the 60-Over, 50-Over and 20-Over World Cup.
7. Former Chelsea forward _____ has been credited for ceasing civil war in his home town of Ivory Coast.
8. Famous English club, home to former Chelsea legend, John Terry was founded by a group of cricketers.
10. Former Indian cricket skipper is the only player to play for both the Indian and Pakistani national teams.
11. Former AC Milan ace defender retired from football and in 2017 qualified for a tennis tournament, in Milan.

Down

1. This American professional boxer, activist and philanthropist saved a man's life in 1981, by talking him down from jumping off the ninth floor of an LA building.
2. On September 2017, this decorated English footballer announced his attempt to become a professional boxer.
3. This retired Czech-Austrian footballer is the highest goal scorer in the history of football with 805 professional goals.
6. This football club's second and first teams' match was the first soccer game televised in 1937.
9. Since 1982 this country has held the record for most goals scored in a world cup match, with a whopping count of 10 goals.



Note: All answers to this crossword refer to the concerned persons' surnames.

Answers to This Week's Crossword			
Across		Down	
4. James	8. Villa	1. Ali	6. Arsenal
5. India	10. Tendulkar	2. Ferdinand	9. Hungary
7. Drogba	11. Maldini	3. Bican	

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

sports

NBA Finals	May 31 - June 17
FIFA World Cup	June 14 - July 15
Men's Hockey Champions Trophy	June 23 - July 1
Wimbledon	July 2 - July 15
Women's Hockey World Cup	July 7 - July 21
Tour de France	July 7 - July 29



tv shows

Who's Line is it Anyway (Season 6)	June 4
Marvel's Cloak & Dagger (Series Premiere)	June 7
Big Hero 6: The Series (Series Premiere)	June 9
Marvel's Luke Cage (Season 2)	June 22
Penn and Teller: Fool Us (Season 5)	June 25



books

Motherhood	Sheila Heti
Pices	Melissa Broder
The Mars Room	Rachel Kushner
Favourite Sister	Jessica Knoll
Bring Me Back	B.A. Paris
Save The Date	Morgan Matson

video games

God of War	April 20
Fortnite: Battle Pass 4	May 20
State of Decay 2	May 22
Detroit: Become Human	May 25
Vampyr	June 5
The Crew 2	June 29

albums

Cinematic	Owl City
Pray for the Wicked	Panic! At The Disco
Prequelle	Ghost
Youngblood	5 Seconds of Summer
Sweetener	Ariana Grande
Rolling Papers 2	Wiz Khalifa

movies

Deadpool 2	May 18
Ocean's Eight	June 8
Jurassic World: The Fallen Kingdom	June 22
Sanju	June 29
Ant Man and The Wasp	July 6
Mission Impossible 6: The Fallout	July 27

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

Online Edition: www.doonschool.com/co-curricular/clubs-societies/publications/past-weeklies/

weekly@doonschool.com



©IPSS: All rights reserved. Printed by: The English Book Depot, 15 Rajpur Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248001, India. Published by: K. Prabhakaran Nair, The Doon School, Dehradun.

Editor-in-Chief: Kushagra Kar **Editors:** Devang Laddha, Kanishkh Kanodia **Senior Editors:** Aayush Chowdhry, Zoraver Mehta **Hindi Editor:** Amritansh Saraf **Associate Editors:** Ansh Raj, Aryan Bhattacharjee, Aryaman Kakkar, Divyansh Nautiyal, Karan Sampath **Special Correspondents:** Keshav Raj Singhal, Jai Lakhanpal, Sriman Goel, Varen Talwar **Correspondents:** Advaita Sood, Bhai Kabir Singh, Samarth Kapila **Cartoonists:** Anant Ganapathy, Armaan Batta, Pratham Bansal **Webmaster:** Vishal Mohla **Assistant Managers:** Ishaan Saxena, Purnima Dutta, Arvindanabha Shukla **Technical Assistant:** KC Maurya **Picture Credits:** Udaya Goel (Page 1), Mr. Arvindanabha Shukla (Page 4), (Mr. Vivek Kumar (Page 7), Ticketfly, Inlander, Wallpapers Home, 7Director, Wallpaperscute (Page 12)