



# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
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## Editorial

# Questioning Busy

Ansh Raj

Among the long list of words that one would regularly hear within the School walls, the word 'hectic' is probably a favourite. Its use spikes during this time of the year, as hordes of activities are launched on us. However, with a growing focus on academics as well as mental well-being, the number of activities that we are actively involved in is increasingly becoming the focus of our discussions. As the contention around the idea of reducing the number of activities grows, it is time we set aside our personal stakes, and objectively reflect on the current system which could be undermining our goals.

A prominent part of our activities are our Inter-House Competitions. While Inter-House Competitions of team events like Football and Cricket have long been a part of School, sports like Tennis and Squash have been added to the Inter-House list a few years ago. The preparation for the team competitions includes weeks of practices as a House, after which teams are chosen to participate in the tournament. This forms an important part of the Dosco culture where boys are provided with opportunities to step out of their comfort zone and strengthen their interests. Competing in a fiercely dynamic environment is also an integral factor that helps us in honing important skills. In

addition, these team competitions also see cheering squads and water 'faggers', who, whilst not playing, support the team in its endeavours. This 'House Spirit' is instrumental in creating an organic cohesion in the House; the late-night strategy discussion before a particularly intense hockey match, or the *josh*-infused *Appale ki Appale*, where the entire House celebrates after a tournament victory are those few instances which form the crux of this fruitful collaboration and make the House more than just a building accommodating 100-odd boys. Given such consequential value of Inter-House in our School life, it is almost implausible to think of doing away with it.

Conversely, a year without Inter-House, even if adopted as experiment, could potentially injure student-led sport practices in the evening. An important dimension of senior boys mentoring their juniors would be compromised, and practices on the fields and courts, now lacking purpose, could possibly fall short on seriousness too. A year in experiment would also mean that a batch loses its only opportunity to lead the House and perhaps make its best memories.

Having said so, there exist many Inter-House competitions which don't fulfil many of the features discussed above. Individual sports, while important, exhibit only

limited features that qualify them as Inter-House competitions- due to less participation, these sports fall severely short on House-level preparation. Those involved in these tournaments are either regular players involved in School team practices, or those who are generally thought to be good at sports but have had no practice in that particular sport. Therefore, instead of having Inter-House competitions in place, we can look at tournaments where individuals with genuine interest in the sport compete with each other.

However, even as we speak, there's a want for a delicate balance between activities and academics that we must continuously deliberate upon. An alternative explored last year in a *Weekly* article was the possibility of specialisation. In specialisation lies the answers to many of the problems that we lament over; conversely, all it warrants from us is making choices among the myriad opportunities our School has to offer. First and foremost, it would give more depth and meaning to our commitments- now, we would have more time to pursue our innate interests. Simultaneously, it would create an environment where even those who lose out on the opportunities will be inclined to divert their attention to the activity of their

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## BULLSEYE

28 staff members took part in the **Staff Shooting Competition** this year. Following are the results:

A team comprising HGT, GYA, and DKR came **first** in the **team category** with a total score of 382, while another comprising MNP, ARD, VVK emerged **runners' up**, with a total score of 328

### Individual Category:

**1st:** MNS with a score of 153

**2nd:** HGT with a score of 134

**3rd:** AKR with a score of 131

A **prize** was also awarded for the highest score amongst the women's staff to PRC with a score of 121.

Well done!

## MASTERS OF THE STAGE

The following are the results of the **Inter-House One Act Play Competition**:

**1st:** Tata

**2nd:** Hyderabad

**3rd:** Jaipur

**4th:** Kashmir

**5th:** Oberoi

The following are the individual results:

**Best Actor:** Inderveer Singh Oberoi

**Best Supporting Actor:** Sahil Bhandari

**Best Female Actor:** Aditya Jain

**Best Technical Director:** Ujjwal Jain

**Best Director:** Vansh Gandhi

**Best Stagecraft:** Oberoi

**Best Poster:** Aditya Saraf

**Best Brochure Design:** Arav Dixit

Kudos!

## SWEEPING SUCCESS

The School Hockey Team participated in the **15th S. Kandhari Memorial Hockey Tournament** held at **Welham Boys School** between 30th April and 4th May. The team **won** the tournament in a close fought final that led to a sudden-death penalty shootout. Vijayaditya Rathore was adjudged the **best goalkeeper** of the tournament.

Well played!

## TECHNOLOGICAL TALENT

The department of Computer Science conducted the **International Informatics Olympiad, 2018-2019**, for levels 1 and 2. Following are the results:

Arnav Khemka secured **Fourth Olympiad rank** and **First State rank** in **grade seven**. Yuvraj Sarda secured **Fourth Olympiad rank** and **First State rank** in **grade eight**. Shreyas Minocha secured **First State rank** in **grade eleven**, while Ishan Mauli Mishra secured **First state rank** in grade 12.

Congratulations!

“

Adopt the pace of nature; her secret  
is patience.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Around the World in 80 Words

Aam Aadmi Party filed a criminal complaint against Indian cricketer Gautam Gambhir for the possession of two voter IDs. North Korea launched two short range missiles over the past five days. In a suicide bombing bid near a shrine in Lahore, ten people were killed. Aeroloft flight SU 1942 crash-landed in Moscow, killing 41 people. Liverpool FC won 4-0 in the second leg of their semi-final against Barcelona and will face Tottenham Hotspur in the finals of the Champions League.



*(Continued from Page 1)*

choice. A holistic education means that opportunities of all kinds are available for us to explore; it does not mean an atmosphere where everyone wishes to do everything. For any institutional change, we must be ready to forsake what's convenient and personally advantageous to us for something that will enable the entire community to function smoothly. Let us hope that by the end of this debate, a healthy and favourable model is designed and introduced.

## Director's Notes

*Play directors comment on the recently held Inter-House One Act Play.*

### Kashmir

Armaan Thapar

*Bal Bhagwaan*

With a twenty-man crew, ranging from the AV squad to producers, One Act Play competition this year has truly been an enriching experience that manifested itself in everyone's heart; a seed that would take shape into passion for drama and other art forms. As director I was quite pleased with the end result and happy to see juniors from the House keenly engrossed in practice and giving it their very best. From Pannu's dramatic jokes to MNP Sir's vital advice, the play *Bal Bhagwaan* has been an experience of a lifetime.

*Adhe Adhure*

Aryan Bhattacharjee

Jaipur

Our play, this year began, like any other- choosing our script, rehearsing our lines; however, where I believe something extraordinary happened was when our actors performed together, like a single violin joined by a quartet. Wait! Enter the AV Squad, which elevates the play exponentially, like the quartet joined by the brass. At this point the producer and his stage managers give the play its grounding in this context with the set, making it real for an audience, like the brass joined by the woodwinds. A day before the performance, the poster and brochure are akin to the timpani, thundering the message of our play to the audience: a wondrous euphony, all parts of the machine oiled and ready for performance. By the end of it, we made the journey from performers to artists.

### Oberoi

Bhavya Rajgahria

*Sheeshe ke Khilone*

The Inter-House Play is a different kind of experience. From looking for props to finalising the brochures to acting, it's a lot of work. But along with this responsibility comes a lot of fun and bonding between those involved in the play, something one cherishes. It provided us with an opportunity to present ourselves in different avenues of art.

*Paagal Ghar*

Vansh Gandhi

Tata

Tata House, with their production *Pagal Ghar*, put together a unique blend of satirical comedy and serious drama in the recent Inter-House One Act Play competition. Despite the end-product being beautiful as well as successful, the journey was a struggle for us. Almost all cast members had several other commitments during the preparation time such as Board Examinations, MUN, and Space Settlement Design Competitions. The last-minute shift of the venue to the MPH was another significant challenge as it had a large impact on the blocking that we had practised according to the setup of the Rose Bowl. However, our hard work paid off, and in my opinion, we put together an entertaining as well as thought-provoking performance.

### Hyderabad

Aarsh Ashdhir

Poster

This year Hyderabad House put together a commendable production involving 40 members ranging from actor, singer, orchestra, dancers, AV etc. Doing a play as long venerated as Poster came with its own responsibilities. This meant recreating the setting and themes of the original whilst also adding new layers in terms of choice of music, characterization, etc. The greatest victory for me, however, was that my cast which comprised entirely of first-timers got exposure to theatre and hopefully developed an interest in it which will manifest itself in future performances.

# Disillusioned

Ansh Raj

It begins with a smile,  
A shy shade of crimson,  
As the sound of her name wafts through.

Soon, it's all you choose to hear  
Distinct in a chaotic cacophony  
Harmonising pretence to sentiment.

A physical unease overcomes you,  
The bed has become rock-hard  
The night breeze is discomfoting  
And dreams, they can be capricious  
But they keep you sheltered.

Time flies,  
A knot slowly ties in your throat  
Your feet tap with anxiety;  
The day has finally drawn itself.

Alas, the illusion shatters  
Into shards of bitter disbelief.  
As dreams turn into reality  
So does your suppressed insecurity.

But is your insecurity  
Really born of passion?  
Why pretend lovesickness  
When you don't even know love?

# A Friend

Veer Babaycon and Mridul Jain

A Friend

When you have a friend,  
He will stick with you till the end.  
He will give a friendship band,  
and also a helping hand.

We will be here for six years,  
and shed multiple tears,  
but you should never fear,  
your friend is always here.

We will hardly meet our parents,  
at least in midterms we got good tents.

We will have a lot of fights,  
But upon us many bright lights.

A friend in need is a friend indeed,  
only he will help when you bleed.

I know that friends do lie but,  
He will wipe your tears when you cry

A freind always helps you,  
That's what makes us stick like glue.  
A friend is like a four leaf clover,  
hard to find and lucky to have.

# Reality Bites

Vivaan Sood

The first rays of the morning sun gently gleaming through the House, the chirping of the birds, and the ringing of a pleasant bell waking us up in peaceful harmony... Well that is what I thought a typical morning for us would be like. It's a bit of a stretch, but it probably can be achieved, if this wasn't an all-boys boarding school that is. That's the thing about reality- it is never what you imagine it to be. Before joining The Doon School I imagined quite a few things about School very differently.

I think all D formers can relate to Garfield when

**For D formers, however, Toye just shows that eleven and twelve year-olds cannot be left alone for one and a half hours.**

he says "I hate Mondays". With PE being our first two schools, I had imagined a fun session filled with activities, and all of us going back to our Houses with big smiles. Well, PE is about as arduous as climbing Everest- this could be just my opinion, of course. It's not all that bad, but I'm certain some could go to great lengths to skip it.

Toye is the time to reflect upon the day, to revise and to do homework. It is the time to be quiet and study for some time. For D formers, however, it just shows that eleven and twelve year-olds cannot be left alone for one and a half hours. It brings boredom and encourages mischief. We seldom get homework, so we come up with ways to escape this imprisonment. My escape is a nice comic, but for the other ruffians I call batch mates, it's making new games and sneakily throwing balls across the room, so that the teacher present does not see the act. Some boys get creative and even go as far as to make

new toys for their own personal amusement. I too indulge in this tomfoolery (not too often though).

After Midterms, I think it is safe to say that the bathrooms here are... less than inviting. I thought that I would share a bathroom with boys who will be clean most of the time, and will at least have a bath every day. Sharing a bathroom with ten other boys is not the best scenario, but it's what we have to deal with. On some occasions, there might be a rogue underwear going about the bathroom because nobody knows who's it is, or, the pungent smell of someone's feet after evening fitness enveloping itself around you, suffocating the life out of you—no escape. Not that I'm complaining, because some people might think me unhygienic as well.

And it gets really Spartan with the food. From *Pav Bhaji* to a delicious pizza, home is where food

is. The CDH food makes me appreciate home food like never before. Obviously I didn't expect a feast like in Hogwarts, but did I think that we would at least get some variety every day. While we all love *Paneer Makhani*, it's starting to get really boring. It's hard to escape the compulsory vegetables that you are given. When you are serving six hundred boys, I can understand the food being regular, but I didn't expect to detest it!

Doon is a place where one learns how to survive in the real world, how to become independent. So, this isn't me complaining, it's me sharing my thoughts, and thoughts that other people might think too.

Sometimes I wish I had the Reality Stone from Avengers: Infinity War so that I could make this a good reality. But then again, I chose to come here so this is the end game!

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## Surfing Safe

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The Doon School Weekly interviewed Mr. Rakshit Tandon, an ethical hacker.

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**Doon School Weekly (DSW):** Could tell us something on ethics as a part of your job?

**Rakshit Tandon (RKT):** You work in conformity to the cyber laws of the country, and obviously you have some standard ethics that you are taught about, but when it comes to hacking, everything again boils down to the fundamental rights of the nation; like privacy. Any sort of an unauthorised breach of privacy is an offence. So, for example, I am an ethical hacker who works for an organisation, and everyday somebody hacks into their servers and steals information. What I do is hack into their systems, find loopholes and patch them up, but with an authorised letter of permission. Without that, they have all the rights to report me to the police. Data theft is a crime, retaining a stolen computer device is a crime, so is stealing passwords, unique ID's or electronic signatures. This is an offence punishable for three years, with a fine of one lakh rupees. Impersonation is also an offence and so is posting private pictures without one's consent, or for that matter, even obscene pictures.

**DSW:** Since when have you been an ethical hacker?

**RKT:** I've been doing this since 2008, when I was appointed by Golden Doc India. There was a campaign called Safe-surfing, and that is when I first came to The Doon School. Since then I have been regularly in touch with schools and colleges and I keep on conducting specific workshops.

**DSW:** What do you think about data collection in firms such as Google? And what impact does this have on our privacy?

**RKT:** When one downloads an app for his personal use, and before logging on to the app; the person is presented with a lengthy terms and conditions form, what people generally do is scroll through it and click accept. Now, after they do this they are then asked for certain other permissions, for example to access contacts, calendar, location, storage, etc. So terming this as a breach of privacy is wrong, because here these people are the ones giving permission to access these contacts and locations. So legally the firm or company is not at fault. Breach of privacy would be when one doesn't download an app, doesn't use the web, and then if someone tries to steal their data. Breach of privacy can be if someone sells this data or mines it. India still doesn't have a data protection bill; it's still in the pipeline stage after being filed in 2018, and it should probably be put in motion after the elections.

**DSW:** What are some of the main things you would suggest to stay safe on the web?

**RKT:** Whatever app or service you use, you should always keep in mind three things: safety, security and privacy. You should be informed about how to block, report certain things or users on the app. You should know your nation's cyber-security laws and obey them. Another way to report cyber crime is via this government website: [cybercrime.gov.in](http://cybercrime.gov.in). If you stay responsible on the web and follow age restrictions, laws and not display your personal information you could mitigate the risk of your privacy being exposed on the web. Cyber space is a wonderful place and right now it can create amazing careers, if only we utilise it responsibly.

# The Week Gone By

**Aryan Bhattacharjee**

As the swelter grows around us, and the Housemasters' Council has proposed to ban any Change-in-Break above a 'three sign', the term comes to a momentary halt at the brink of a climactic ending. Inter House Play and Dance concluded this week, so quickly did they flash by that it almost felt abrupt. On the other hand, Houses prepare for the band competition which will punctuate the end of term, with, I am told, an interesting popular music workshop this last weekend for our School band.

In the interest of increasing our School's academic seriousness, another Assessment Week has

begun. Coincidentally, our ISC SC-Ls' boards results arrived the same week, setting a staggering benchmark climbing all the way up to a 99%.

On the sports' field, our hockey team continues to make us proud one tournament after another-winning has become nearly habitual for them. They played in four finals this term, of the four tournaments in which they participated, winning two of them- a result that will be remembered in the years to come. Our basketball team too has held their ground well, winning both the matches they've played so far; we wish them all the best.

Thankfully for us, the environmental committee, a sub-committee of the School Council has begun work into exploring the various avenues of environmental change that have happened over

these past few years across campus. We're all excited to learn of their findings.

Meanwhile, a delegation representing our School had quite a successful stint at Sanawar MUN as another generation of Doscocs familiarised themselves with MUNing, ultimately learning that it is essential to reflect upon both our victories and failures. In that true spirit of feedback and constructive criticism, a feedback form for the prefects was circulated to members of our community this week, giving many prefects surprising comments to look into.

The holidays, as we've now been updated, come two weeks too late, so brace yourself for the end of term, dreaming of the two months of vacation that lie ahead.

## Sudoku

		8			2		4	5
6		2			9			
				6		3		
	6		1			5		
	5				6		7	
		1			5		6	
		5						
			6		1	9		3
3	7		9			1		

Source: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/sudoku/>  
Key

4	2	1	8	5	6	9	7	3
3	5	6	1	7	9	4	8	2
6	8	7	3	4	2	5	9	1
9	6	4	5	8	3	1	2	7
1	7	2	6	9	4	3	5	8
8	3	5	7	1	2	9	6	4
2	9	3	4	6	8	7	1	5
7	1	8	9	3	5	2	4	6
5	4	6	7	1	2	8	3	9

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