

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
July 27, 2019 | Issue No. 2540



APPALLE KI APPALLE

A story on the origins of a popular cheer in School.

Page 3

THE SPORT OF KINGS

A commentary on the future prospects of Tennis.

Page 4

WUSHU AND TAI CHI

Arav Dixit reports on his Exchange experience in China.

Page 5

When Money Grew on Trees

Varen Talwar

In my younger and more agile days, before the Great Purge, things used to be much different. Back then, we had televisions, smartphones, iPads...the works! We had all the luxuries that it takes to make life worth living. Or so we thought, until it all changed. Now, of course, we can't do much except sit in a circle and turn to an old man like me for entertainment. But since time must be spent, let me tell you a story.

As I said, the Great Purge brought about huge changes, but the thing that it changed most drastically was the credit system. All of us knew that we would eventually have to give up the luxuries that we were so used to, because it was clear that our resources were running out and our specie was approaching extinction. Luckily, not all of us died, but I'll tell you one thing – living through those long eight years was worse than death.

Even during the Purge, we didn't realise that we had changed the banking system so much.

I guess we were so horrified by the prospect of our own deaths and bewildered by such things happening around us that we never realised how severely we had unknowingly modified money. We couldn't have simply done away with money, because exchange had to take place because even during the Purge, there were markets. You could sell your extra rice and buy flour from the market using the

money, without having to resort to direct barter.

When I think of it now, my immediate response is always a smirk. I remember a very common saying from my youth that people used to express how difficult it was to earn money - "Money doesn't grow on trees!" So, you can imagine how surprising it was for me when suddenly it struck me that now money did grow on trees!

You see, during the initial stages of the Purge, the number of trees fell dangerously low because of the high scale of deforestation and air pollution reached fatal levels. Not much was done about it because the industries had to continue production. However, when the Purge entered its more severe stages, there was a huge change as people began abandoning their businesses and realised the dire straits they were in. Households began stocking more trees and plants for air because the atmosphere was so polluted that staying outside for an hour was equivalent to poisoning yourself. There used to be potted plants everywhere- along the corridors, in the rooms, in the kitchen, and God knows where else! People managed like this for a while, until they were forced to evacuate their houses when the animals invaded them. I remember one distant November afternoon, we were thrown out of our own house by the monkeys! They broke in

through the windows and wreaked havoc. We quickly gathered our stuff, and, carried as many pots as we could - at least four each!

It was the same with so many families. Mankind had become a huge caravan of immigrants, carrying plants in backpacks. Wherever we camped, we would sleep in a circle around the plants, and at least one person kept guard over them through the night. I remember falling asleep during my watch one day, only to wake up to my mother's slaps and seeing my father and brother run after some thieves who had stolen our plants. Luckily, my brother had woken up at the right time, otherwise we would have lost our supply of oxygen, and I would have died of guilt.

With plants inflating in value each passing minute, people started exchanging lengths of stem for food. These were used to grow new plants by vegetative propagation, and gradually, without us realising it, plants replaced our currencies. The people with the most plants were the most influential, and most likely to survive. Our family was luckily one of them because my father, an economist, had realised this early. We began multiplying our plants while the soil was fertile enough, and kept a carefully-guarded and regulated stock throughout the Purge.

But even we suffered. I remember

(Continued on Page 3)

MATCH POINT

Sangcho Rijju and Vedit Verma participated in the **All India IPSC Tennis Juniors**. The results are as follows:

In the team event, Vedit Verma and Sangcho Rijju reached the **Semi-Finals**.

In the singles category, Sangcho Rijju reached the **Quarter-Finals**.

Kudos!

WELCOME ABOARD

On behalf of the School community, the *Weekly* welcomes **Allison, Tisa, Elly, Riley** and **Bridget**, visiting teachers from Worcester, who will conduct theatre workshops for DoscOs on street theatre, and teach classes.

We also welcome Mr. Dhondiyal, who is stepping in as a temporary French Teacher, and Mr Bajaj, who will be joining the ACE Department temporarily.

We wish them a fruitful stay in Chandbagh!

JUNIOR ACE

Vedit Verma stood first in the **2019 S.R. Vohra Junior Tennis Tournament**.

Congratulations!

“

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

—
B.B.King

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

I need to go someone.

Tanay Gour, lost.

These lemons are broken.

Saatvik Anand, bitter revelation.

I didn't taught everyone.

Yuvraj Sarda, thankfully.

I should have shoot sooner.

Siddhant Agarwal,

I am enlargening.

Aarnav Sethy, evidently.

How does it even care?

Mehatva Kukreja, you tell us.

When we going to MHS house?

Dhairyajit Singh, *Apna Time Aayega.*

ERRATA

In Issue 2539 of the *Weekly*, the article “**Expedition Extraodinaire**” did not include the co-author's name, Ishaan Singhee. Also, the Headmaster's new book, “**How Your Child Can Win In Life**” was published by **Juggernaut Publishers**, not **Om Publications**.

The *Weekly* deeply regrets the errors.

Around the World in 80 Words

Boris Johnson was elected as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. North Korea fired two short-range missiles into the sea of Japan. The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, which sought to give power to Centre to decide pay and terms of Information Commissioners, was passed in the Rajya Sabha. The Tunisian President Caid Essebsi died at the age of 92. 51 people died as lightning struck regions of Bihar and Jharkhand. Hungarian swimmer Kristof Malik broke Michael Phelps' 200m Butterfly world record.

Dosco Doodle

Best Version of Ourselves

Saatvik Anand



(Continued from Page 1)

the day when my uncle didn't wake up from his sleep. That was one of the saddest days of my life, but sorrow can come in many degrees, and just when you think it can't get any worse, you are proven wrong, I learnt this when my sister was shot during a robbery.

But eventually the nightmare ended, and the human population reached a stable level. By stable, I mean a constant level, not a healthy stage, for our species was clearly underpopulated. After the those horrifying years, recovery began, and we finally started to settle down. Our family took control of a large piece of land beside a river.

Initially, we lived in a makeshift hut; at the same time, we started to build a house, a project we completed in over a year.

Eventually, we started a bank. We lent plants, which we grew with great difficulty on our infertile land. Still, we were better off since the river brought in a good amount of silt. I recall a distant Economics lesson when I learnt what money really is. It's not necessary for money to be notes and coins. Anything scarce enough, if regulated, can be a medium for exchange. People needed plants as trees were still not abundant enough, so they had to adopt our currency. However, despite the

prosperity of the business, we were left as hollow people – for our lives had been tainted by the blood of those who had died, and our minds by the memories of those fateful years.

Now, of course, it's been many years since the Purge, and I have become an old man. The land is much more fertile now, and it is only a matter of time that we change our currency that will hopefully not bring something so grotesque as what I saw. Still, I'm happy that I could witness a phenomenon so fascinating in my lifetime as seeing money grow on trees.

Appalle ki Appalle

Sriman Goel explores the origin of the cheer "Appalle ki Appalle".

At the end of the previous term, the fantastic and fully fueled band competition left me in bodily frenzy as our house gathered outside the Rose Bowl to shout the words we had all been awaiting so eagerly.

"Appalle ki Appalle...Chain kulli ki hai hai!"

As the excitement wore off, we all went our way without much thought about what this absurd phrase meant. Although I didn't think about it then, the 'Appalle ki Appalle' celebration is one of the older School traditions that has continued without explanation – one of School's quirks that has stood the test of time.

As I asked a few masters around campus how these cryptic phrases originated, I received mixed answers and wildly different stories, but was always left with a smile and a "Pakka pata chale toh mujhe bhi batana". I found out that the celebration began somewhere between 1995 and 2005. As reported by one of our Old Boy teachers, the story of the cheer began because of a Bengali teacher who twisted other words

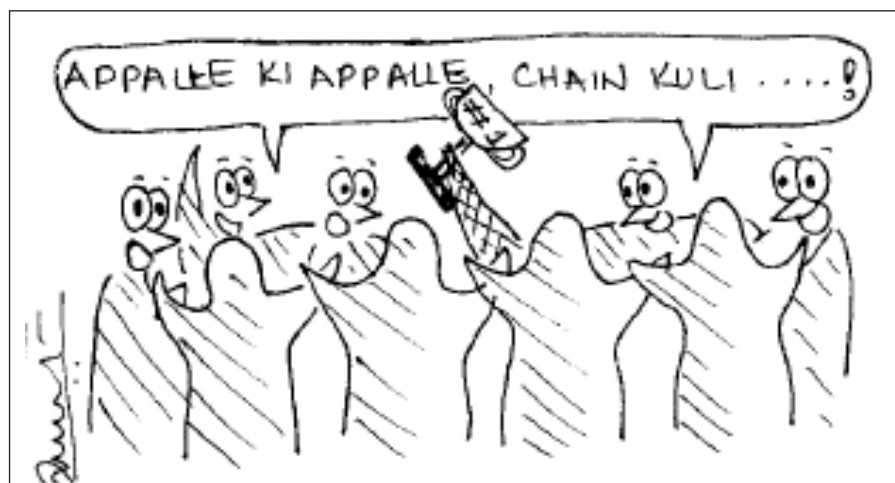
to make the celebration resemble the nonsense language it is today.

I found out that the celebration began somewhere between 1995 and 2005.

According to another master, boys from Hyderabad House made up the chant in a shouting match, as a rebellious cry that they used to shout across the Kashmir-Hyderabad Quadrangle.

One thing every master

mentioned was that the words were probably nonsense. Nevertheless, I tried to look into the meaning of the cheer, since I believed that something that has stayed a tradition must have some value and meaning. After extensive Google Translate usage, I still could not find any meanings for the words in Bengali or any other language. Since the second line - 'Chain kulli ki hai hai' – sounds similar to the popular cricket movie 'Chain Kulli ki Main Kulli', I tried to see a relation there. I quickly ruled this out, though, since the movie was released in 2007, much too late to have established the phrase in School. Finally, I stumbled upon



(Continued overleaf)

(Continued from last page)

the phrase being first used by Amitabh Bacchan in a fight scene in the old Bollywood movie 'Satte Pe Satta' from 1982. According to the movie, it means

"When I'm good, I'm great,

But when I'm bad, I am better."

Although this isn't the exact translation, it represents the symbolism on which the catchphrase is based. After

finding this information, it seems like exactly what Doscoc might shout as a celebration, especially as the '90s and 2000s were a time of great competition among Houses in School. I believe it's still relevant today in keeping with the competitive spirit we know of so fondly in School.

Maybe others know what 'Appalle ki Appalle' means exactly and how it came to be the way it is today

– as one of the most exhilarating moments in one's school life. But what I really admire about these words are that we may not know anything about them, where they came from and what they mean, but simple lines give us so much happiness that we don't really need to give any meaning to them. 'Appalle ki Appalle' is just pure joy to us.

The Sport of Kings

Gurmehar Bedi *comments on the future prospects of Tennis.*

When Roger Federer lifted his first Wimbledon Trophy in 2003, the world knew that a champion had been born. It was the commencement of another phase of tennis. A phase which would not be dominated by the likes of Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras and Goran Ivanisevic. Ever since that iconic moment, Roger Federer, along with Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic, has remained the undisputed champion of men's tennis.

Over the years, the hard work of the Big Three has translated into an unprecedented number of grand slams and stunning feats. They have won a staggering 54 of the last 64 grand slams, a feat that has never been accomplished in the history of the game. In spite of memorable matches such as the 2019 French Open, where the young gave the masters an arduous time on court, the trio appear unscathed. That said, even though tennis fans across the world remain astounded by the achievements of these Legends of Tennis, concerns regarding the future of the historic sport have been raised.

The next generation does have the potential, the dexterity and the desire to win on the court. However, they all lack something. Something which is preventing them from replacing the three

greats. The lack of constant progress is what sets these young individuals apart from these legends. The 37-year-old, Federer, is playing a more aggressive game than he ever has. Djokovic, with his powerful returns, believes that it requires alterations. Nadal has never played with more vigour. Their ambition to succeed is remarkable.

World number four, Austrian, Dominic Thiem is already 25. Yet, he does not have a single grand slam title to boast of. However, this was not the case with any of the Big Three. By the age of 25, they had a fascinating collection of titles under their belt including a variety of majors. The reason for this is their sheer dominance on the court which has restricted others from showcasing their talent.

Therefore the questions till stand, what will happen to the future of tennis after the departure of these legends? Is the next generation adept enough to impress the crowds the way these masters did? Will tennis remain as popular as it currently is? These questions amongst many others will remain unanswered until the phase arrives. Although a majority of the fans believe that tennis will fade away and will lose its place as the fourth most followed sport of all time, others

are more optimistic regarding its future due to the emergence of players such as Stefanos Tsitsipas, Alexander Zverev and Nick Kyrgios.

The pressure of underperforming and the frustration of being overshadowed adds to the failures of the young generation. They primarily lack the experience and the nerve to endure a packed court totally against them. When the frustration kicks in, they lose their cool, argue and eventually give in. In fact, there have been numerous controversies surrounding players such as Kyrgios. Thus, people form a perception, a paradigm of sorts against such players causing them to drop the few opportunities that come their way.

In every sport, there comes a stage when the young are required to accept the baton from the old. A stage when the previous masters depart, and the young ones take their place. Unfortunately, in the case of tennis, that stage may be around the corner, however the next generation is barely prepared to become the carriers of the baton, to carry the sport forward and build on the legacy of the Big Three. All we fans of tennis can do is sit on the edges of our seats and wait for the future to unfold.

Wushu and Tai Chi

Arav Dixit reports on his exchange opportunity in China.

Being the first Dosco to go to China for an exchange program, I was nervous and unsure of what awaited me. However, by the end of it, I felt reluctant to come back to India, because it was one of the most enriching and memorable experiences I had ever had. And, best of all, I wasn't alone! My batch-mate Saksham Makin was also sent on Exchange to the same school.

TV as well as my own travels have exposed me to the culture of the United States, and of the United Kingdom. But I have neither travelled to China, and nor have I watched any TV shows about China's culture or traditions, so every day I got to learn something new in a country about which I knew nothing.

Though my exchange was short and lasted only for three weeks, I learned many new things in China which I would never be able to learn anywhere else like the Chinese performing art called 'Wushu'. But what I was able to learn in greater detail, was how to handle the 'Tai Chi' racquetball which consists of a racket as big as a squash racquet but instead of the guts it has a sort of rubber layer where you need to put a ball on the net and flip the racquet. The ball should not fall while the racquet is being flipped, which can be achieved by stability and focus. I also learned a great deal about Chinese history including Marx's Communist Manifesto, the peasant movement, and about communism under Mao Zedong as all of this was included in their curriculum as a separate subject called 'Chinese History'. This was very interesting for me. As an assignment, we were to write a thesis statement on the Manifesto in 20 words and no more! Learning Chinese was great fun and I was able to learn the

alphabet, how to introduce myself, counting, and directions. I felt very happy as Chinese is considered to be one of the toughest languages to learn for people with a different mother tongue.

I also learned a great deal about Chinese history including Marx's Communist Manifesto and...

While there, I also trekked to Fragrant Hills. We were surrounded by greenery and mountains and I was reminded of my midterms here. While coming down from Fragrant Hills, there was a slide which was 1.7 kilometers long and had around 50 curves. We sat in a sort of sledge where the speed was controlled by a lever, which was something very innovative.

Another great experience was seeing the Great Wall of China, which I had heard lots about but never thought that I would get a chance to visit. The section of the Great Wall which I saw is called 'the Water Wall' due to the reservoir around it. The water is so high that it has submerged a whole part of the colossal structure. To attract tourists, the Chinese government has started ferry rides and motorboat rides from the starting of the Wall to the island where the reservoir ends. I was also lucky enough to attend a concert in the school by an orchestra of Beijing, which featured some of the best Broadway musicals 'Wicked', 'The Phantom of the Opera', 'Seussical', and many more.

The many beautiful memories that I made, made my exchange a very new and fruitful experience. Like a new Dosco starting School, I felt anxious while going, but sad like SC-Leavers while saying goodbye.



The Week Gone By

Aryan Bhattacharjee

Thus far, the term has seen few changes that have fundamentally altered how we perceive School. Perhaps the hardest hitting of these changes happened this Monday at Assembly, in the wake of rising concerns over greater efficiency in academic time management. From what I know, not much has been crystallised as yet, but one can assume bigger changes in the pipeline.

On the pastoral front, it has been finalised that post-Founders, the present batch of Prefects will be stepping down to make way for the next batch. This has caused some

dismay among the present hopefuls, who will have much less time to execute their grand designs to pave their way to prefectorial positions.

I'm glad, however, that these changes happen now, as it spices up our otherwise dull and boring days of oppressive weather conditions. Despite the poor weather though, football practices are vigorously underway, especially with the bringing forward of the Inter-House competition. On the other hand, uncertainties about the dates of the basketball and swimming competitions have provoked the various sports captains across Houses to begin practices anyway.

On the co-curricular front, MUN fever seems to be picking up, with chairs finalising their crises as they receive sycophantic emails from eager delegates. The stepping down of a certain Chairperson has

induced great excitement over who the replacement will be. Meanwhile, the Inter-House debates continue relentlessly, with one of the masters-in-charge moving on to bigger things in life, often leading to Hindi and English debates happening simultaneously.

Surprisingly though, at a time when most of us are busy with one thing or another, academics is one of the most hotly talked-about things in the wake of a new formulaic system for predicted grades. Moreover, with a stricter system in place for deadlines, especially for the IB, many are shocked as they received serious-sounding emails that threatened of serious consequences.

At this point, all that can be hoped for is that the changes we bring to our systems help us preserve the essence of our institution and take it closer to the ideals it upholds.

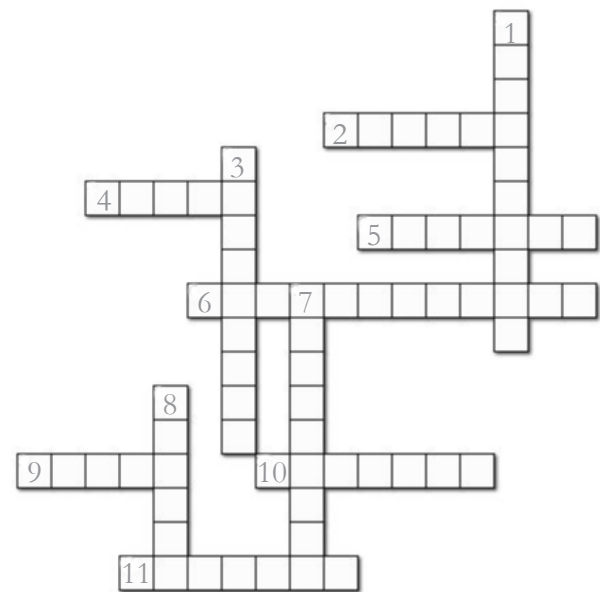
Crossword | Cricket Achievements

Across

- This player holds the record for the longest six in a match, at a humongous 158 metres.
- This batsman is one of the two batsmen who have scored the fastest Fifty, doing so for the Melbourne Renegades.
- This Australian player is regarded as the most successful captain in cricket history.
- This spinner has taken a world-record total of 1347 wickets.
- This player holds the record for scoring the most runs in a test match at a professional level.
- The Indian with the most wins as a captain.
- The most runs scored by a player in a single test series with a total of 974.

Down

- The fastest century in an ODI match was made by this player.
- He is the sixth Indian cricketer to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.
- Most test wins a row goes to this country, with a remarkable 16 wins.
- The fastest ball ever was bowled by this player at a speed of 161.3 kph.



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

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
Across	2. Afridi
	4. Gayle
	5. Ponting
	6. Murliidharan
Down	1. De Villiers
	3. Tendulkar
	7. Australia
	8. Akhtar
	9. Gooch
	10. Ganguly
	11. Bradman

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

The views expressed in articles printed are those of the 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: Kamal Ahuja, The Doon School, Dehradun.

Editor-in-Chief: Ansh Raj Editors: Aryaman Kakkar, Divyansh Nautiyal Senior Editors: Aryan Bhattacharjee, Karan Sampath Associate Editors: Adit Chatterjee, Aviral Kumar, Keshav Raj Singhal, Sriman Goel, Varen Talwar Special Correspondents: Aditya Jain, Advaita Sood, Kabir Singh Bhai, Samarth Kapila Correspondents: Ahaan Jayakumar, Armaan Rathi, Shreyan Mittal Cartoonists: Ameya Shawak, Anant Ganapathy, Saatvik Anand Webmaster: Jayanti Chatterjee Assistant Managers: Ishaan Saxena, Purnima Dutta, Arvindanabha Shukla Technical Assistant: KC Maurya Picture Credits: Arav Dixit (Page 5)