

The Doon School WEEKLY



"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
September 21, 2019 | Issue No. 2548

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In the Right Spirit

An article on the meaning of 'House Spirit' from the perspective of two students.

Armaan Rathi

B-Form

Houses have been a cardinal aspect of School since our establishment in 1935. They are environments that foster our development, encouraging individuals to excel in different fields. In School, a House is more than just mortar and bricks, more than just a bed to sleep in, and more than a desk to study at. A House is a closely knit web of fraternities where, under the guidance of more experienced boys, individuals hone and develop a skill.

Ever since I walked into the Main House, I have been given ample opportunities to diversify my interests and learn new things, from how to hold a hockey stick to the unique ways of cooking Maggi in the pantry. The House has supported me in ways I couldn't have imagined; always there to back me up and to correct me when I'm wrong. Members of a House share an intense bond of brotherhood

which instills in boys a sense of belonging and acceptance, enabling them to take pride in their Houses. This bond unites all hearts upon hearing "*Appale ki Appale*", making each person sing their hearts out; a bond that leaps out of every Dosco when a last minute free-kick brushes into the net or when the entire house holds their breath during a closely fought swimming race. That zeal and fervor is one of the most genuine feelings a Dosco can experience in School. This feeling unites hearts to strive in every capacity - whether it be working together as a cohesive unit in various fields ranging from sports to the artistic, or providing firm moral support to our House-mates in their individual endeavours.

However, over the years, the smaller efforts our boys put in to give back to the House have often gone unnoticed. To many, things such as sacrificing your dormitory

space so that the house dance troupe can practice at night or coming and supporting juniors at an inter-house game don't come off as monumentally arduous tasks.

While the awards and recognition each House obtains are certainly commendable, these unseen acts are what ultimately sustain the cordial environment within each House.

The idea of House Spirit should never be used to force people into doing something they may not want to do, but at the same time, it should be an idea that each member of the House is receptive towards to at least some degree. Being forced to do something "for the House" can be frustrating, but showcasing an unforeseen adoration for the House as soon as a race is won or a goal is scored, and not on any other occasion, is equally worrying and moreover disheartening.

Vir Bhatia

S-Form

Despite it being such an important trait for all people associated with the boarding houses in any capacity, House Spirit is regrettably a term that is often thrown around without any proper understanding of its meaning. For me, House Spirit entails far more than frantic chants of "Hyderabad, Zindabad!" on the touchline of a House XI football game. Instead,

it embodies a way of living for each member of the House, from the house captain to the bearers.

Logically, it would seem obvious that to understand what house spirit means, one should first understand what the house is. Ranging far beyond a hundred odd beds, a common room, and a toaster, the house is the environment in which people learn to live together, work together, and experience their rises

and falls together. It is here that I have made my best friends. It is also here, where I have learnt what kind of person I would and would not like to be. In the boarding house, one gets the chance to see their peers grow and evolve. I have seen my seniors go from C-formers to SC-formers. For some it was a breeze, not quite so easy for the others. The same is true for my

(Continued on Page 3)

This Week In History

1620 CE: The Mayflower departs from England in search of the New World.

1787 CE: The Constitution of the United States of America was signed by 38 out of 41 delegates.

1793 CE: George Washington lays the Cornerstone to the United States Capitol Building.

1810 CE: Mexican War of Independence begins.

1893 CE: New Zealand becomes the first country in the world to give Voting Rights to women.

1908 CE: William Durant created vehicle manufacturing and design company General Motors.

1939 CE: The Soviet Union invades Poland.

1946 CE: The first Cannes Film Festival takes place.

1976 CE: NASA unveiled its first space shuttle, 'Enterprise'.

THE WHO?

Who is Amethyst Amelia Kelly?

Ishan Singhee: A motivational speaker

Firas Khullar: A model

Varen Talwar: A satirical author

Shourya Agarwal: A quizmaster

Amethyst Amelia Kelly, also known as **Iggy Azelea** is an Australian singer, songwriter, producer and model, known for albums 'In My Defense' and 'The New Classics'.

“

We cannot be sure of having something to live for unless we are willing to die for it.

Che Guevara

FEATHERING FINESSE

Ameya Shawak was adjudged first in the **painting category** during the **IPSC Art Festival-Meraki**, held at **Daly College, Indore**.

Well Done!

SHOTS FIRED

The following are the results of the **18th Uttarakhand State Shooting Championships, 2019**:

Shourya Agarwal and Varad Mann won a **Gold Medal** in the **Standard Pistol Team Event**.

Shourya Agarwal and Viraj Gulati won **Silver Medals** in the **Sports Pistol Junior Mens Team Event**.

Sudhir Choudhary won a **Gold Medal** in the **Sports Pistol Sub-Junior Mens Team Event**, and a **Silver Medal** in the **Sports Pistol Sub-Junior Mens Individual Category**.

Varad Mann won a **Silver Medal** in the **Standard Pistol Junior Mens Individual Category**, and won a **Bronze Medal** in the **Air Pistol Junior Mens Team Event**.

Kudos!

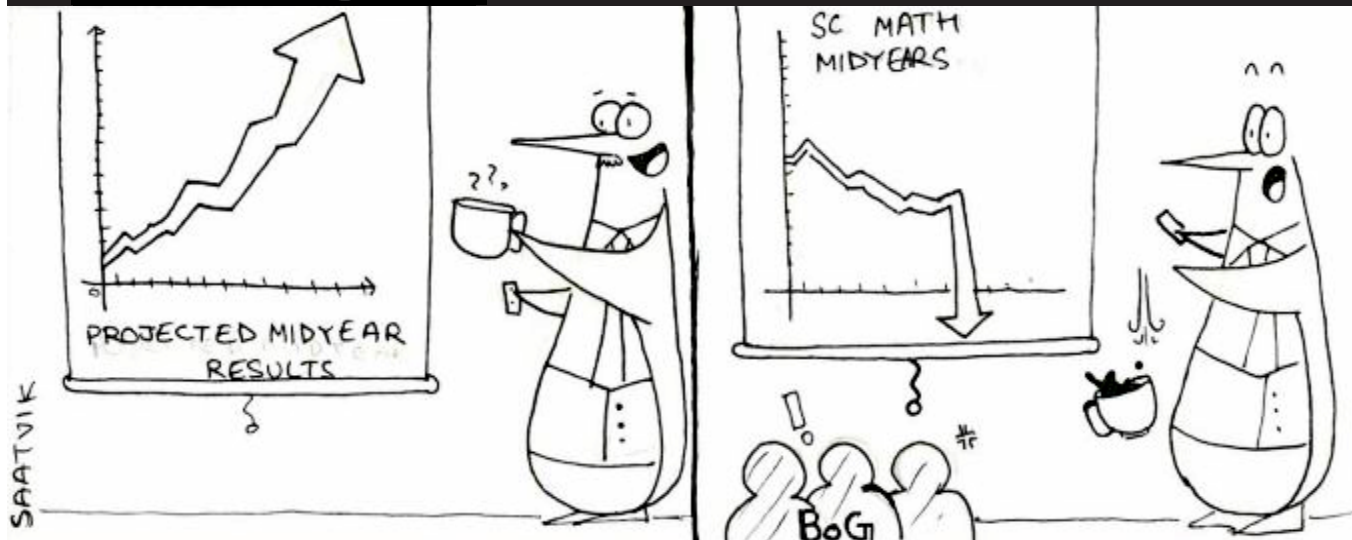
Around the World in 80 Words

After dissolving in May, the Israeli Knesset commenced snap elections on Tuesday. Afghan forces accidentally bombed a farm during an American-backed airstrike, killing 30 civilians. Donald Trump ordered new sanctions on Iran after a recent attack on Saudi Arabia's oil refineries. Schools were shut in Malaysia and Indonesia because of the lethal haze produced from Indonesian forest fires. In the opening week of the UEFA Champions League, Real Madrid was battered 3-0 in a shock defeat to Paris Saint Germain.

Dosco Doodle

Great Expectations, Hard Times

Saatvik Anand



(Continued from Page 1)

form-mates, juniors, and even the housemasters, the dame, and the bearers. It is the job of the house, or more appropriately, the people within it, to facilitate this growth. However, sometimes this is not easy for people to make this happen. Often, this growth is inhibited by some who prioritize house activities over academics and other personal pursuits. Undoubtedly, there needs to be re-evaluation and reflection on how best the houses would function.

To me, the answer to the question, “what is house spirit?”, is quite simple - it is to possess the willingness to work towards the growth of each individual within the house. Yes, it does entail showing our support for inter-house competitors in order to appreciate their efforts, but it also involves being available and willing

to cooperate with the people around you. Of course, there is no denying the many difficulties that are inextricably linked with the number of people each house contains, houses, or the fact that they can only be overcome by maturity. Despite these, each of us, as members of the larger Doon School community need to personally invest ourselves in improving the human experience of those around us. Everyone is good at something. House Spirit is being able to develop that goodness in others while simultaneously allowing others to do the same for us.

Having said this, my arguments should not be misinterpreted as support for instances of abuse of power in the name of enforcing House Spirit. While there will always be an instance of abuse of power by someone in

authority, that should not be the reason for questioning the very idea of authority that empowers and protects. For instance, it is important for us to recognise the authority of adults to correct us, and not assume that they are out to cause us emotional trauma. Similarly, we must also have faith in our prefects, and any instance of abuse of power should be dealt with immediately, while recognising instances where it is appropriately used. Or else, it would be a case of throwing the baby out with the bathwater. This will also be depriving the students of an opportunity and an experience for those who will go on to become leaders of tomorrow.

Coming to the end of this article, I hope that this piece serves as food for thought for both – those who fail to demonstrate the essential quality of House Spirit.



UNDER THE SCANNER

Brexit: “Deal or No Deal?” | Vivhaan Kothari

To quote British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on the imminent Brexit, “So we are getting ready to come out on October the 31st. Come what may...Do or die. Come what may...”

Brexit has yet again been propelled to the position of the most controversial and debated topics around the globe. The future of the UK is uncertain and turbulent, to put it mildly.

Currently, the UK has three options open to them with starkly different outcomes, each bearing their own set of advantages and disadvantages: No-deal exit, Exit with Deals and Early Elections. The British parliament has not been able to reach any consensus yet, despite Brexit being the most extensively debated topic over the past two years.

If no consensus is reached then it would result in a No-deal Brexit. U.K. leaves the Single Market,

Customs Union and all other EU structures and programmes with no economic agreement set up. Freedom of movement would perish. Duties and controls would be required between the U.K. and EU, including between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

On the other hand, in order to bring up a Deal Brexit and avoid a No-deal one, Mr. Johnson has proposed an early election twice, which was then rejected by the British parliament on both occasions. If such a motion passes then the parliament would be dissolved and then re-elected. It would typically be done in order to increase his party’s grip over the parliament. However, this could go either way, like it did for Theresa May, where thirteen party members were reduced from her party.

The third and seemingly most

unlikely outcome is a Deal Brexit, despite the fact that PM Boris Johnson has continuously reiterated that he is in favour of this. The crucial date is October 17-18, when the bloc’s leaders meet; providing an opportunity for last-minute negotiations, Boris Johnson may be able to force his deal upon them, or the UK is probably headed straight for a No-deal Brexit. Johnson had expressed his desire to renegotiate the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement, also agreed by his predecessor Theresa May, which was turned down thrice by the parliament. Other options for the UK are the Customs Union Deal, the Single Market and the Common Market 2.0.

The PM has been striving to obtain a Brexit deal by the 31st of October and has been unsuccessful so far. On the 9th of September, Queen Elizabeth gave final approval to a piece of legislation that seeks to prevent Boris Johnson from taking the

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country out of the EU without an exit deal on October 31. However, if we were to assume that Brexit took place by then according to the present arrangement, it would probably be a No-deal Brexit.

In order to deal with a No-deal Brexit, the UK government has set up a secret project known as Operation Yellowhammer, a codename used by the British Government relating to No-deal planning. However, documents from this were leaked to the public, leading to widespread panic and anxiety. Politicians were accused of keeping the public in the dark, which has led to political conditions in the nation deteriorating even further.

The Sunday Times revealed in August that documents concerning Yellowhammer outlined potential situations including that Britain would be hit with a three-month “meltdown” at its ports on the chance that it leaves without an arrangement. A No-deal Brexit could bring about rising food and fuel costs, disruption to medical supplies and social disorder on

Britain’s streets according to secret documents that the government was forced to release by politicians on Wednesday. According to the British authorities and sources, at the moment a No-deal Brexit is “a serious no-no”. So which Brexit would benefit the UK the most? In my opinion, a single market deal would benefit the average person the most, because they would have the freedom of movement to work and live. It also allows them to access goods and services in the single market.

In a nutshell, Brexit has been plaguing the UK for over two years, and a decision needs to be made quickly. The British PM Boris Johnson is pushing for a 31st October deadline, the viable option for UK is to go for a No-deal Brexit unless the contending blocs can come to a consensus, which is highly unlikely. While the best that the rest of the world can do is wait and watch, the outcome of this situation will undoubtedly leave a lasting social and economic imprint on Europe for years to come.

On Ishiguro

Rahul Singh puts author Kazuo Ishiguro under the spotlight.

One can safely say that Kazuo Ishiguro’s name is synonymous with a class of authorship that writes about issues and themes that are quintessentially of the late 20th century. Beyond his ‘Nobel’ recognition, Kazuo Ishiguro possess a distinct quality and touch of creativity rarely observed within authors of the recent generations. After reading 4 of his notable works, there seems to be an interlinking context embedded within his collection of novels.

Being of Japanese descent, Ishiguro was raised in the United Kingdom. A large portion of his content is set within the United Kingdom, and understandably so, being able to relate to the societal and conventional functioning of the people. Novels such as *Never Let me Go* and *The Remains of the Day*, are both set in Great Britain. Although his writing may reflect British sensibilities, there is a great variety of context which he writes in. This variety presents itself through his careful consideration of a multitude of perspectives, adding to the depth and prodigious range of his writing. *The Remains of the Day* revolves around the imperial years of Britain. It is the story of a butler serving a prestigious household. Ishiguro captures the mind-set and conventional thought of its time period. For example, the degree of formality and rigidity which likely existed within the ranks of staff throughout England’s stately households is accurately represented through Ishiguro’s description and dialogue. However, when one considers the fact that Ishiguro was born over three decades after this nobility-centric period in British history had passed,

his ability to interpret and depict this era with such a level of historical accuracy is truly commendable. The book *An Artist of the Floating World* depicts the life of an art enthusiast after the Second World War in Japan. Along with the conservative mindset of Japanese society, Ishiguro highlights other themes such as the aftermath of war and its impact upon the livelihoods of people. Yet again, having lived for a mere period of five years in his native land of Japan, the degree of narrative fidelity he employs in his writing with regards to the atmosphere and tone of the story, as well as elements of Japanese culture, becomes that much more impressive.

There thus seems to be no surprise in Ishiguro’s decorated career as an author, having been recognised through panels ranging from that of the Man Booker Prize and the *Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* (being awarded for “significant contribution to the enrichment of the French cultural inheritance”), to the Nobel Prize for Literature. Ishiguro has the unique ability to interpret various cultural perspectives to create an emotional impact that is deeply moving. Readers are able to empathise with the characters created by Ishiguro, and thus establish an affinity with the narratives. Although one may be required to be fairly well-versed with recent historical context to really delve into the connotations he sets out, the equal level of proficiency he displays in creating fictional worlds that transport his readers means that Ishiguro is and will remain an author whose books can be recommended almost universally.

The War of Mos-Quit-O

Varen Talwar

A not-so-long time ago in a not-so-far-away place, there was once an epidemic of dengue spread by the perennial enemies of the human race — mosquitoes. The disease was as ubiquitous as it was deadly, and there was much effort to escape it, but the human race almost always had to bow down to the superior race — mosquitoes. People came up with plenty of novel methods to deal with the situation, but there was one institution — a boarding school — which took the throne as the leader of the resistance. It failed to submit to the tyranny of the malaise of our civilised society, the Trumps to our America — mosquitoes.

This legendary school's resistance was led by its famed doctor, who was at the helm of its progressive ideas and techniques of conquering the mosquito population. Initially, when the problem was still in its unexplored infancy, the students were told to wear full length clothes, so that they inoculate their entire bodies from the evil bites of the infamous Mussolinis to our Gramscis — mosquitoes. However, eventually, there was a case of dengue — the first major defeat in the school's war against the evil insect plotters. In all fairness, though, this was before the school took control of the army, for it was still the beginning of the crisis.

The problem became more prominent when the doctor had to send a few people home to recover, for it was a clear act of surrender. The mosquito army had emerged victorious!

Or so it thought.

The doctor had taken a step back to buy time to think of the ground-breaking ideas that now define the field of disease-prevention. He came up with some truly ingenious ideas, which he was going to enforce soon, had it not been for the information that some soldiers of his own army had defected for their personal gain. Yes, he discovered that many of the students had pursued the mosquitoes to bite them, so they could reunite with their families instead of fighting for their survival on the bloody battlefield.

This triggered the doctor to take harsh action. So, he ordered the construction of an elongated infirmary with enough beds to house double the population of the school. Built over a short period of nine hours by the dedicated Army of the Mos-Quit-O, it was a narrow, one-mile long hall, with beds lined evenly on both sides of the aisle. From then on, whoever ended up with dengue was taken to the infirmary, not sent home. The firm decisions of the doctor had worked!

Now that that problem was solved, the doctor resumed his efforts to improve the defensive protocol of his troops. He issued orders which banned the ordinary

school uniform, and replaced them with lead suits, which would protect the students from all the mysterious types of approaches mosquitoes took to insert their swords into nimble human bodies. Moreover, it would also save them from any alien radiation those beasts might emit to melt them, vapourise them, convert them into Hitlers, or even worse, change them into mosquitoes to expand their armed forces. After all, who knew what weapons they had stored for future persecution of innocent species like the Homo sapiens?

As they could never be taken off, special holes and blow driers were incorporated so that hoses could be inserted in them when they wanted to take a bath.

Meanwhile, another measure the doctor took was to recruit specially trained 'Mosquito-Demolishing Machines'. These were men and women of his troops who had been made adept in the art of killing mosquitoes. They would diligently patrol their stations and, with their bare palms, squish any mosquito in sight, savouring the feel of the enemy's spilt blood on their rough hands.

Soon, the suits were ready, and the army well trained in fighting mosquitoes. The doctor and his generals developed several new attacks against their enemies, like draining the mosquitoes' blood-filled stings before they could touch you, and slicing them into half with one precise swing of your sword. So, now that they were ready for battle, they started plotting a surprise attack against the mosquitoes.

On the eve of the attack, however, a major segment of the Great Army surrendered to the mosquitoes out of the blue. It was another boarding school, and it was sending its students back home. This treason was unacceptable to the doctor, and his fury apparent and justified. He had refused to cancel the boys' morning PT till they were deep into the war. Moreover, the bi-annual wildlife trip was still on — no matter if the mosquitoes could locate and attack vulnerable kids out of their barracks. He believed that he had bestowed his troops with enough skills to survive a hand-to-hand combat with a mosquito.

However, true to his character, he refused to call off the attack. He divided his Great Army into several regiments, and each of them was stationed outside different mosquito strongholds. It was then, after a long period of dormant planning, that he turned the tide of the War of the Mos-Quit-O with a single swing of his sword. After the many bloody years of battle that followed, the humans gained back control of the world, and he, their Commander-in-Chief, was forever to be revered by posterity as its saviour.

The Week Gone By

Sriman Goel

Ah, yes. Finally, the much-despised Trials/Test Week comes to a close as most of us complete our final papers today. A stressful two weeks has now turned into an arduous concluding stretch as answer scripts roll in, bringing eye-opening news to all and proving fatal to some. Performances in the classrooms yielded some grounding results too as the SC ISC Mathematics results rationalized aspirations and made dreams finite. Making up for lost time, Inter-House Junior Football continued regardless of Test Week

and led swiftly into Inter-House Junior Basketball, with the Seniors' competition fast approaching.

In a shocking turn of events, Vital Protected Necessities failed all over campus, rendering most internet interactions academic. At one point, Youtube's famed 'Restricted Mode' resurfaced briefly, making even Hindustani Classical music potentially 'objectionable content' to our ears. Several underground internet hacking committees tried to maneuver around these issues without success, leading to the only alternative - as the new and extremely popular saying goes - *Jio Ji Bhar Kel!*

The skies have made a few changes of their own this week, doing away with the blistering heat and replacing it with a few

refreshing showers. Rest assured, *winter is coming (soon)*.

A House Feast draws near, with some wondering if, like last term, another stomach flu will hit Oberoi House. With the last strands of the dengue uniform still upon us, this is one problem we clearly don't need - so be cautious, but not too cautious - it's House Feast after all.

Following the fleeting break this week, S Formers will laboriously be taking the SAT and A Formers will be attempting the PSAT. Adding to the fire, Midterms and Founders' preparation will soon begin for most, keeping the community busy for one final refreshing yet cumbersome spell. But for now, let's enjoy the weekend we have to ourselves - we've certainly earned it.

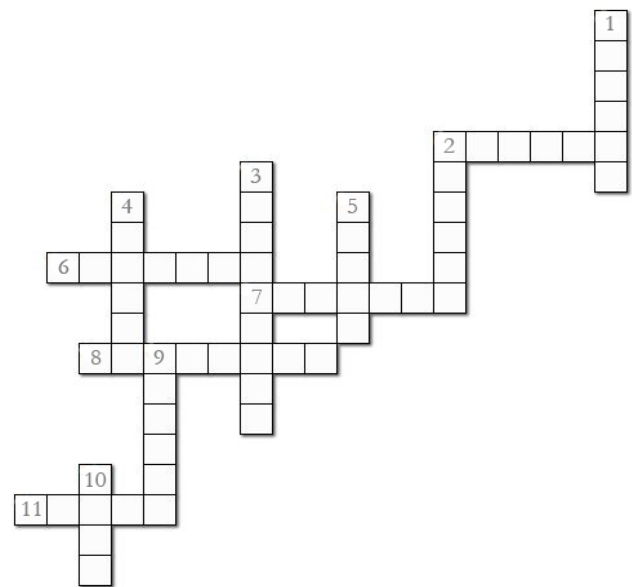
Crossword | Quotes

Across

2. "Condemn me. It does not matter. History will absolve me."
6. "The best revenge is massive success."
7. "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up."
8. "To retain respect for sausages and laws, one must not watch them in the making."
11. "Go to Heaven for the climate, Hell for the company."

Down

1. "To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk."
2. "To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child."
3. "Among those who dislike oppression are many who like to oppress."
4. "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."
5. "A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with his freedom."
9. "Those who vote decide nothing. Those who count the vote decide everything."
10. "History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce."



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

Answers to This Week's Crossword	
Across	2. Castro
	6. Sinatra
	7. Picasso
Down	1. Edison
	3. Bonaparte
	4. Gandhi
	5. Dylan
	8. Bismarck
	9. Stalin
	10. Marx
	11. Twain

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

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