

Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
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# Time is of the Essence

**Bhai Kabir Singh** *highlights why students fail to effectively manage time at home.*  
.....

On my first day in School, our Housemaster held a Common 'Quadi' (the Foot House version of a main house Common Room meeting) to lay out the ground rules. One strange rule was that for the first month of our stay at School, our watches had to be deposited with the Linen Room staff. Our Housemaster explained that the measure was taken to make us reliant on the School bells rather than our watches. He hoped this would help us adjust to the School's regimented schedule. While this seemed reasonable at School, now that I am at home, the implications of policies such as this are beginning to emerge. At home, I struggle to focus during classes and productively use my time. Most of my time is either spent on Netflix or playing video games, a stark contrast to an average day at School, where I would at least study for an hour and a half and play sports in the evening. The work done in a day at School is nearly the same as the work done in a week at home. This struggle to manage my time and discipline myself is rooted in my over-dependence on School's schedule and system. There has been a long-standing belief that our strict schedule pushes students to work harder, while also inculcating self-discipline in them and teaching them how to manage their time effectively.

The hope is that if students can maintain a rigorous schedule in School, they would be able to emulate a similar schedule outside of School also. However, this is clearly not the case at home. At a fundamental level, our structure does not promote self-discipline, but rather an enforced discipline. The prefectorial system coupled with our strict schedule informs students where to be and when, time tabling every minute of a student's day. Rather than allowing students to make active decisions on how they should manage their time, they are instructed on the same: as a result they do not learn how to effectively manage their time on their own. While this is very effective in maximising students' productivity while they are in School, it fails terribly outside it. Students are made too dependent on prefects and teachers to make these decisions for them. Additionally, rather than students actively disciplining themselves, they rely on others to do it for them. This phenomenon is clearly visible once students reach SC Form. The moment the prefectorial body is declared, SC Formers start skipping meals, classes and sports time. Perhaps this is because, when students are reprimanded by prefects, there is often very little dialogue that takes place. I have only met a handful of prefects

who chose to explain to a junior the reason for the punishment before punishing him or her. More often than not, the prefect would hold up five fingers signalling a five-sign change-in-break, and that would be the end of the discussion. As a junior, I often wondered why it mattered so much that I was punctual to meals, or whether my shoes were polished; they seemed arbitrary and insignificant at the time. Without having developed an understanding of the personal benefits of following these, I never felt the internal motivation to abide by them. Students would never follow these rules by choice, but rather as a compulsion. Self-discipline is a virtue essential for any person trying to maintain a strict schedule, and because School doesn't adequately equip us with these skills, it has been very difficult for students to manage their time independently. To develop a culture of self-discipline that can be practised outside of School as well, the willingness to follow School's structure must come from within. I believe that explaining the benefits of following certain rules and then allowing students to make an active choice to follow the schedule would be far more effective in inculcating self-discipline. The motivation to work hard and manage time efficiently  
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must be internal rather than forced. Certainly, there will still be students who would continue to not abide by School's regimented schedule. While these students will be forced to face the consequences of such decisions, most students are able enough to make wise decisions. Additionally, students should be given greater agency in deciding how to manage their time, rather than having it managed for them. At home students are struggling to wisely allocate their time, ending up wasting it in unproductive pursuits, an issue compounded by their lack of self-discipline. Furthermore, it is incredibly difficult for students to handle distractions such as social media and television. While we can sustain our rigorous schedule in

School, it is extremely difficult to do the same outside. At home, we have unrestricted access to Netflix and social media, but in School, these distractions are minimised by taking away our phones, banning online games, and keeping the Common Room shut on weekdays. Nonetheless, the real world is filled with these distractions, and it is nearly impossible for us to avoid them. By removing these distractions, students are not taught how to tackle them, but how to live without them, a situation that is not practical in the world outside School. At home, students across forms struggle to deal with these distractions. The constant beep of notifications on my phone keeps snatching my attention away. Our capacity to deal with such distractions is severely

impaired because we are deprived of dealing with easy access to such platforms throughout the year. This ultimately results in students giving in to these temptations easily.

However, this does not mean that School should allow phones and laptops to each batch, but rather slowly teach us to deal with such distractions. Allowing phones on weekends or during outings will allow students to be exposed to such platforms in a controlled manner. Teaching students to manage their screen time is important, especially moving forward into a digital age. It is a daily struggle for students to manage their time and stay focused while studying, and we look up to School to help us best prepare students for this struggle.



## UNDER THE SCANNER

End SARS Campaign | Devank Agrawalla

In the last two weeks, Nigeria has been swept by youth-led protests against The Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), a federal police unit that has been accused of corruption and abuse of power. The protests were prompted by footage of officers pulling two men out of a hotel in Lagos into the street and shooting at them.

Over the years, the police unit has built up a reputation of brutality and notoriously targeting the youth. Between 2017 and 2020, Amnesty International reported 82 cases of police brutality. In June 2020, a report by the Human Rights Organization revealed that criminals in SARS custody were subjected to torture, hanging, beating, waterboarding, and mock executions. Complaints about SARS surfaced in 2018 as well; however, the presidential panel set up to deal with its reforms made little headway.

The protests were initially

dismissed by the political elite, who believed that the protesters were creating 'mischief'. However as the protests intensified, the government was forced to listen to the youth, and very recently they announced that the SARS unit would be disbanded and the officers would be redeployed to different units. Protestors were not satisfied as they believed these officers would continue to operate in a similar fashion, in their new units. They demanded that the entire unit be disbanded rather than be redeployed. In response, last week, four police trucks flanked a major protest site in Lekki with over a thousand protestors and opened fire at the crowd. Reports account for 12 killed. The horrific carnage, now described as the 'Lekki Massacre', fuelled outrage among the youth and further intensified the protest, and garnered a global following for the movement. The call for an

end to police brutality especially resonated with African-Americans who are a part of the Black Lives Matter movement in the United States. An #endSARS hashtag was also tweeted by famous celebrities such as Kanye West, John Boyega and Rihanna. The movement found particular support from the footballing community with the Nigerian footballer Odion Jude Ighalo, who plays for Manchester United, accusing the Nigerian government of killing its own citizens. "I'm ashamed of this government," he said in a video posted on Twitter.

With intensifying violence from the government and non-SARS police officers, the protests have taken a whole new dimension and have broadened to reforming the entire police force and the government system as a whole. SARS was a tipping point that forced the Nigerian youth to voice their frustration about their inept and corrupt government. More than 70 percent of Nigerians live below the poverty line and

*(Continued on page 4)*

## WAR OF WORDS

The School was represented by Agam Bhatia, Keshaw Singhanian, Kabir Subbiah and Yuvraj Sarda at the **Mallya Aditi International School Debating Competition, 2020**. The team reached the **Semi-Finals**.

Congratulations!

## This Week in History

**1804 CE:** Napoleon Bonaparte is crowned Napoleon I in the Notre Dame Cathedral.

**1858 CE:** Theodore Roosevelt is born in New York City.

**1881 CE:** Pablo Picasso is born in Malaga, Spain.

**1918 CE:** Ottoman Empire signs an armistice treaty with the allies, ending their involvement in World War One.

**1994 CE:** The Cuban Missile crisis, a 13 day stand-off between the Soviet Union and the United States, ensues.

**1959 CE:** The Antarctic Treaty is signed by 12 nations, banning all military involvement in the region.

**1984 CE:** Indira Gandhi is assassinated by two of her bodyguards: Beant Singh and Satwant Singh.

“

Where there is righteousness in the heart, there is beauty in the character. When there is beauty in the character, there is harmony in the home.

When there is harmony in the home, there is order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there is peace in the world.

—  
A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

## ILLUMINATING LUMINARIES

A delegation of 11 students participated in the 6th edition of the **E. Ahemad Model United Nations Conference, 2020**.

Ruhaan Goel, Maharshi Roy, Ahan Jayakumar, Amrit Agarwal, Vihan Ranka and Veraj Goel won the **Diplomacy Award**, while Aryan Bhandari, Aditya Gupta and Satvik Petwal won the **Outstanding Diplomacy Award**.

Kudos!

## THE WHO?

Who is Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson?

**Krishnav Sachdev:** Singer.

**Aditya Agarwal:** Songwriter.

**Suryansh Singh:** Artist.

**Bhai Kabir Singh:** An Instagram influencer.

**Shaan Bulchandani:** Actress.

**Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson**, known professionally as **Katy Perry**, is an **American singer, songwriter, and television judge**. She rose to fame in 2008 with the release of her second album, **“One of the Boys”**, a Pop Rock record containing the controversial U.S number one song **“I Kissed a Girl”**.

## Around the World in 80 Words

France was put under lockdown after another surge in COVID-19 cases. Philadelphia was put under curfew after a police officer killed a coloured man. Eight people were charged by the US in an alleged plot to intimidate its citizens to return to China. A seven magnitude earthquake struck Greece and Turkey. The Government of India issued an ordinance to tackle pollution, the violation of which is punishable by up to five years' incarceration. Tottenham triumphed against Burnley in the BPL.

**Dosco Doodle**

**Tuck Coronavirus Check**

*Paras Agarwal*





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there has been little change in recent years to help alleviate the issue. The frustrated youth believe that the politicians are not doing enough for the country. However, despite this, many see a silver lining. The community engagement and the widespread optimism has shown that the Nigerian youth can make a difference. From the intensity of the protests, it is

evident that the protesters will not allow the issue to fizzle out behind closed doors. The Nigerian political elite have realised that the youth can no longer be dismissed, and are a force that needs to be reckoned with. The protests have altered Nigeria’s political landscape forever. Let us hope that the country turns a corner soon, and more humane police action is seen on the streets.

## द दून स्कूल

वाई एस रावत (भूतपूर्व प्रभारी, बुक स्टोर)

१. है ये बात सच कि अग्रणी स्कूलों से है देहरादून की प्रमुख पहचान।
२. है नहीं इस तथ्य से कोई भी व्यक्ति अनभिज्ञ, कोई माँ-बाप अनजान।
३. परंतु देहरादून के सभी स्कूलों में है जिसका प्रमुख एवं पहला स्थान।
४. है बेहद खास 'द दून स्कूल', है निश्चित ही इसकी पहली पायदान।
५. बच्चों की चौमुखी प्रतिभा विकसित करने हेतु है नहीं कोई इसके समान।
६. यदि की जाए हर पहलू की चर्चा तो होगा नहीं खत्म इस विषय पर व्याख्यान।
७. दी जाती है नवीनतम तकनीकी प्रणाली से शिक्षा और व्यवहारिक ज्ञान।
८. है इसीलिए विशेष और सर्वश्रेष्ठ, कह सकते ये बात हम अपना सीना तान।
९. आते हैं बच्चे लेने दाखिला जब होते हैं वे ११ से १२ वर्ष के नादान।
१०. फिर बहुआयामी और उच्च शिक्षा पाकर भरते हैं जीवन में ऊंची उड़ान।
११. बन जाते एक योद्धा की भांति दूढ़ लेते हैं जीवन की हर समस्या का समाधान।
१२. कभी होना नहीं पड़ता उन्हें असफल छू लेते हैं सफलता का ऊंचा आसमान।
१३. पाना शिक्षा यहां है पाना स्वयं गर्वित अहसास और एक उच्च सम्मान।
१४. होना किसी भी रूप में सदस्य इसका है नहीं समान्य है बात महान।
१५. अनुकूल हैं हालात जहां है नहीं वायु एवं ध्वनि प्रदूषण का नामों निशान।
१६. समेटे हुए है अपने आप में प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य सहित सुविधाओं का सम्पूर्ण जहान।
१७. बेहद सफल, सुरक्षित एवं उज्ज्वल है यहां बच्चों का भविष्य और वर्तमान।
१८. क्योंकि एक बेहद अनुभवी और कुशल हेड मास्टर के हाथों है इसकी कमान।
१९. आओ करें 'दून स्कूल' की चर्चा और इसकी विशेषताओं का गुणगान।
२०. जो है देश में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र की सबसे अग्रणी आन, बान और सच्ची शान।

## Día de los Muertos

Saachin Ramasami describes the Latin-American festival 'The Day of the Dead'.

El Día de los Muertos o el “Day of the dead” en inglés se celebra en todo México el 2 de Noviembre. El día de los muertos tarda 2 días para celebrar a familiares y amigos fallecidos. El primer día es para conmemorar a los bebés y los jóvenes fallecidos, mientras el segundo día es para honrar a los adultos y ancianos que han fallecido. Las familias crean altares para los que han pasado poniendo fotos de ellos detrás de velas y las bañan con flores. Muchas personas también visitan cementerios y decoran las tumbas. El Día de los muertos es muy parecido a Halloween en las culturas occidentales, excepto que los únicos diferencias son que la gente lleva esqueletos festivos y, en lugar de dulces, las familias se reúnen y festejan juntas. Estos banquetes suelen contener alimentos y bebidas como tamales, pollo con salsa molè y chocolate caliente mexicano. Esta fiesta se originó en la época de los

aztecas en honor a quienes fueron sacrificados o murieron en batalla. Con el tiempo, las festividades han cambiado, pero el enfoque no ha sido alterado. Ha habido múltiples películas basadas en este festival. Por nombrar algunos, Coco y “El Libro de la Vida” (el libro de la vida). A diferencia de muchas comunidades occidentales, en México el tema de la muerte es aceptado y celebrado en lugar de ser ignorado y mal visto.

**English Translation:** El Día de los Muertos or “The Day of the Dead” is celebrated throughout Mexico on November 2. The Day of the Dead is spread across two days to celebrate the life of family and friends who have passed away. The first day commemorates children and young people who passed away, whilst the second day honours adults and the elderly. Families create altars for the departed by displaying

photographs behind candles and showering them with flowers. Many also visit cemeteries to decorate graves. El Día de los Muertos is similar to Halloween as concept in Protestant countries, except that the only costumes worn are festive skeletons and instead of giving candies, families gather and feast together. These feasts usually contain food and drinks such as “tamales”, chicken with “mole” sauce and Mexican hot chocolate. This festival originates from the Aztec culture, which honoured those who died in battle on this day. Over time the festivities have changed, but the main idea has remained untampered. There have also been multiple movies based on this festival such as Coco and El Libro de la Vida (The book of life).

Unlike in western communities, in Mexico, the topic of death is embraced and celebrated as opposed to being discouraged.



## Should School re-open for A and SC Formers?

While the COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtedly been extremely unfortunate, I know there are many SC formers who have seen the silver lining of these circumstances. This is the perfect opportunity for us to focus on our college applications, our studies, and our future, without being hassled by the busy routine of School, and I am glad that the timing of this situation has provided us with this opportunity. More importantly, Doon simply isn't itself with the safety protocols that must be put in place, and therefore it makes no difference whether we are at home or whether we return to Chandbagh - it will be a while before Doon feels like home once more.

-Adit Chatterjee

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the entire world, of which my residence in Kolkata is no exception. Finally, after the prolonged lockdown, the world seems to be recovering some normalcy. However, personally, being in School is a significant aspect of normalcy that most of us desperately crave. During this pandemic, I have truly missed the School's atmosphere: the animated gossip with my formmates and the incredibly comforting natural environment. After all Doon represents a microcosm of the holistic environment that we have been deprived of over the past year. While the freezing weather will be a notable challenge, the overwhelming desire to fully reconnect with my peers and masters has surely convinced me to return to Doon whenever possible, more so considering the imminence of our inevitable farewell.

-Rushil Choudhary

Today there are around eight million cases of COVID-19 in India. However, with the appropriate measures taken, as School is taking, I believe it would be safe for us to come back to School. I have my IGCSE board examinations coming up and I need to study hard for them; however, studying online is not as effective as studying back at School. Additionally, being away from School for so long has not been easy on me. I miss playing with my friends and meeting masters at meals and classes. With the arrival of students, School will brighten up once again.

-Jinay Borana

Personally, the decision of whether or not to return to School not only came down to my safety but also depended on what environment will least disrupt my studies. While I do acknowledge the fact that School has taken safety measures, I do feel that I would be safer at home, a much more closed environment with not as many people. When talking about studies, I honestly believe that online classes are almost the same in comparison to normal classes. Moreover, at home, we have access to tuitions and laptops that better our learning experience and with boards on the horizon, I feel staying at home is a much better and safer option.

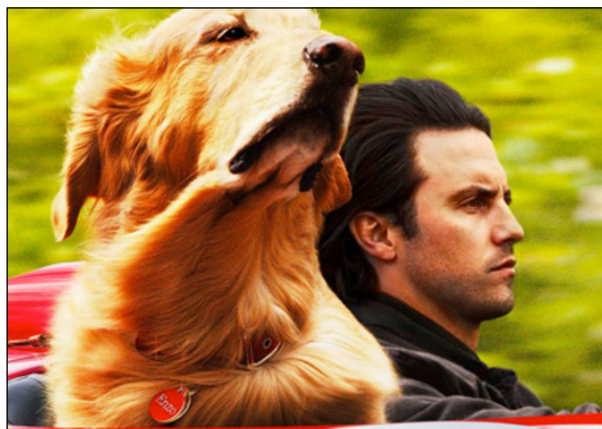
-Shreyan Mittal

## Problem of the Week

Positive integers  $p$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  satisfy the equation  $p^2 + a^2 = b^2$ .

Prove that if  $p$  is a prime number greater than 3 then  $a$  is a multiple of 12 and  $2(p+a+1)$  is a perfect square.

### What Have You been Reading During the Lockdown?



#### The Art of Racing in the Rain Author: Garth Stein

*The Art of Racing in the Rain* wonderfully narrates the story of a racer, through the eyes of his dog Enzo. The book showcases the innocence and intelligence of a dog through his experiences on a quest to understand his life purpose. This is done while he simultaneously follows his dream of riding in a Ferrari. I would recommend this book to any dog lover or someone just looking for a good story and a good laugh.

-Rohan Taneja

### What Have You been Watching During the Lockdown?



#### The English Game

**Cast:** Kevin Guthrie, Edward Holcroft

*The English Game* is set in the mid-1800's when Football was a sport dominated by the English upper-class. During this time sport was not seen as more than a recreation and the concept of a player being 'paid to play' was frowned upon. The series covers the transformation of football in Britain through the eyes of Fergus Suter, a Scotsman and the first ever 'professional' footballer to grace the field.

-Arjun Prakash

The Weekly wishes everyone an enjoyable break, and looks forward to receiving your contributions during it!

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

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