

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
March 6, 2021 | Issue No. 2597



REGULARS

A recap of everything DoscOs have achieved in recent weeks.

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AN ODE TO JOY

The *Weekly* interviewed acclaimed musician, Prof. Karl Lutchmayer.

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PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Can you solve this week's maths problem?

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So Long, Farewell

The Doon School Weekly bids farewell to Ms. Sakshi Tikku and Mr. Udayan Philip. On this occasion, their friends, students, and colleagues share their thoughts on their tenures.

This is what is known as a 'double whammy' - the two School counsellors leaving at the same time. Had I not known the reasons for both Udayan and Saakshi's respective decisions, I would seriously be questioning myself as the HOD of their department!

As a member of the pastoral care team, I thank them both for connecting with, and supporting the boys, and many adults, on this campus. Both possess infinite amounts of patience and kindness. They understand people, and the issues that people grapple with internally, and silently. To have had two such empathetic listeners with a ready ear and sound advice is something we all are grateful for, and will sorely miss.

On a personal note, I was lucky to have found a friend and confidante in them, receiving all the benefit of their perception and insight in a natural and informal manner.

I am sad that their time in School has come to an end but wish them every success as they move on, back to their respective family folds, and to new experiences, sharing their love and care for the happiness and wellbeing of more and more people.



-STK

I remember being so pleased when Saakshi joined school as I was the only counsellor for a while. Her cheerfulness, positivity and light-hearted way of looking at life always brought joy to the people around her. Saakshi has been lovely to work with - we've been partners in designing house sessions, life skill classes and eating yummy food. Saakshi, your energy never fails to light up a dull or dark room! Thank you for reminding me to see the bright side of life. See you at the Marriott in Bombay :)

-UNP

These past few years with Saakshi flew by so quickly that one wishes that those years had gone by a little slower so that we could have spent more time together. I still remember the first time we met and her energy, exuberance and warm smile instantly created a connection. Over a period of time working with the Foot House boys, we got to know each other better. She could always take a joke on herself or make tough moments lighter with a good laugh when it came to her, but was always empathetic and compassionate when it came to others and this is what made her the 'go to person' for all. I will always cherish the dancing diva, the debutante actress, the warm smile and the most comforting hug. I know, Saakshi, that whenever I need any help, you will be there.

-RHS

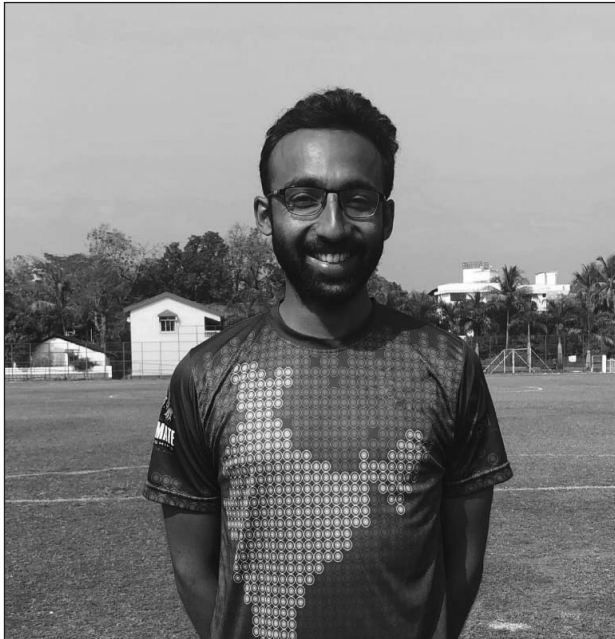
The way we met SKT ma'am was how many DoscOs meet new teachers: we were in search of food. We don't know how we got to her house, but we are glad we did because we got to know such an amazing person. For

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us, she was the go-to person to talk to whenever we had any issue or whenever we were in trouble and now, we can't imagine School without her! It's extremely hard for us to bid farewell to someone who is very special to our whole batch. You guided us and helped us in perhaps the toughest times of our School life and we can't thank you enough for that. We will miss you ma'am and we wish you the best in all your future endeavours!

-Divyaansh Surana, Kritin Goel & Sriyash Tantia



The very first time I met Udayan was when I came in for my interview, and I remember being seated on the blue chair in his office and introducing myself. He was very welcoming and our conversation about School was very helpful as it increased my excitement and curiosity about the institution. Udayan's love for Ultimate Frisbee is very well known and he is extremely passionate about it. Imparting life skills using this sport has been one of his many strengths. The love and compassion he has for his students has been evident in his work and I am sure he has inspired students on this campus to become the best versions of themselves. Wishing you all the very best for your future endeavors!

-SKT

UD, as I always have called Udayan, has been a pillar of support for me, as a friend and colleague, over the three years we have known each other. After every good tutorial meeting or talk with students after class, I would share with UD what went well and what could have been done better. He has always encouraged and supported me for every right thing I do and has been a true friend in critiquing me when I have faltered. I wish him all the very best and hope to see him achieve greater things and stay colourful, rich, vibrant and full of new ideas.

-JJW

UNP Sir is more than just a master for me. His approach towards certain affairs has been different or, as many may put it, 'unconventional', but at the same time very 'bold' and that's what he brings to the table. His affection and care for the School Community will be sorely missed. The morning cycling tours, playing Ultimate or whatever it was, it was so much fun to be in his company. Thank you so much Sir!

-Nand Dahiya

"On your right!" yelled someone I made out to be a teenager with curly hair as he overtook me during cycling. Only later did I get to know that this individual who whizzed past everyone like an expert cyclist was our new counsellor, UNP Sir. His friendly nature and warm personality was liked by most people on campus who, like me, found not only a counsellor but a friend in him. Over the course of two midterms, countless cycling excursions and Ultimate Frisbee matches, Sir amicably projected his ideals and morals which have had a lasting impact on me. Thank you for all the memorable events, lessons and the great times I have had the privilege of sharing with you Sir!

-Arya Gupta

I remember that when I was going through a tough time in School, not academically but just in general, UNP was the one I spoke to and I honestly think that the main word that comes to mind when one thinks about UNP Sir is gratitude. Thank you for being such a great teacher! I'll always remember you with the deepest respect and affection for your efforts in making each lesson or subject or topic, a voyage into the seas of curiosity. I hope that you continue to have the feathers of the peacock and I sincerely wish you the best of luck on your journey forward and can honestly say that it is extremely painful to see you go.

-Aryan Baruah

This Week in History

51 C.E.: Nero, later to become Roman Emperor, is given the title *princeps iuventutis* (head of the youth).

1575 C.E.: Mughal Emperor Akbar defeats the Bengal army at the Battle of Tukaroi.

1897 C.E.: The first performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's 4th Symphony in B takes place in Lobkowitz Palace, Vienna.

1924 C.E.: The Egyptian government opens the sarcophagus (mummy case) of King Tutankhamen.

1936 C.E.: After five years of construction, the Hoover Dam is completed.

1946 C.E.: British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, delivers his famous "Iron Curtain" Speech at Fulton, Missouri.

BOOKWORMS

Raghav Kediya and Shivya Majumdar have been awarded the **Gold Award** in the **Senior Category** of the **Reading Awards, 2020**.

Great going!

ENCORE!

Five students participated in the **Annual Theatre Festival - 'Theatron'** - hosted by **Delhi Public School, R K Puram**. They participated in five different categories.

Armaan Batta won the **first position** in **Solo Act** category.

Kudos!

PHENOMENAL PHYSICISTS

The Doon School participated in the selections for team India in the **World Physics Quiz, 2021**, which consisted of three rounds. Agam Mohan Singh Bhatia reached the **second round**. Aradhya Jain secured **eighth rank** after the **final round** and narrowly missed qualifying for Team India, 2021.

Well done!

TRIPLE THREAT

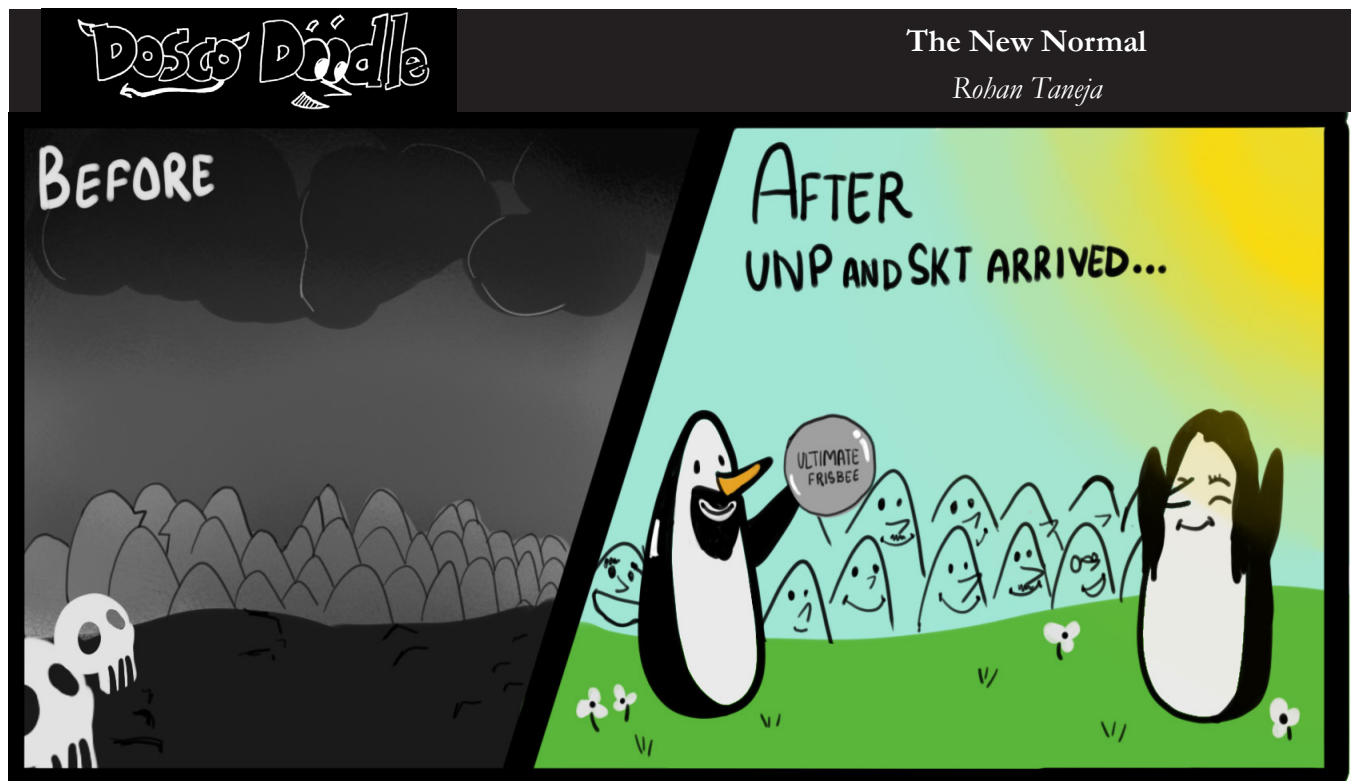
Six teams of a mixed group of students and masters participated in the **Three-A-Side Basketball Tournament** between **February 22nd** and **February 27th**.

The **Runners-up team** comprised Tejas Sharma, Jayaditya Singh Dahiya, and Ishan Singhee. The **Winning team** comprised Devstutya Pandey, Ruhaan Goel, and Tameem General.

Congratulations!

Around the World in 80 Words

Three earthquakes, including one of the strongest ever to hit the region, struck off the coast of New Zealand on Friday, triggering tsunami warnings that were stood down. Australia asked the European Commission to review Italy's decision to block the export of 250,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. The United Nations said it will raise the detention of Princess Latifa, the daughter of Dubai's ruler, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Chelsea beat Liverpool 1-0 in the English Premier League.



An Ode to Joy

The Doon School Weekly interviews the renowned pianist, Professor Karl Lutchmayer

Professor Lutchmayer is a pianist of Indian origin. Most of his childhood was spent in England, where he started learning the piano. His passion for the Piano began when he gave his first concert at the age of eight. He attained higher education at the Royal College of Music, where he would later return as a Fellow. Now, as a professional pianist, Prof. Lutchmayer conducts his research at the University of Cambridge while supporting music education around the world with a special emphasis on India. In 2015, he was awarded the Bharat Gaurav (Pride Of India) Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to Western Classical Music in India.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): How do you cope with long rehearsal hours? How do you deal with burning out?

Prof. Karl Lutchmayer (KLR): So there's many things to think about because it really is easy to burn out. The first thing is that you have to be physically well, you have to keep fit, you have to do exercise. Particularly, of course, when we're on tour, we have to have meals with sponsors and things like that. You tend to do a lot of eating when you're living in a hotel, and you're travelling by train and car and plane, and you don't get a lot of exercise, so it's really important, particularly when you're at home, to make sure you're healthy and you do some sport and some exercise because it keeps the brain and the body well. So, these days, I tend to have two sports. One is rowing -- I row for New College in Oxford, and that's very intense -- and the other thing I do is fencing, which is great fun. The second thing is you have to be very organized. It's very dangerous, when you've got a free day, to just sit and practice all day and, often, a lot of that practice is not good. So try to schedule, have a little diary and say "I'm going to do these four hours, and these are the things I'm going to practice. I'm not going to do eight hours, I'm going to do four really good hours, rather than eight mediocre hours". Try also to have some kind of routine. So even when I'm travelling, of course there's very little routine, but trying to say "ok I'm going to try to sit at the piano for four hours a day" is a little bit of routine. "I'm going to try and do a bit of reading each day" is a bit of routine. Another great passion of mine is scrabble and you can play scrabble online. So I always try and make sure I play a bit of scrabble to keep my brain working. That's very important. So those are the kind of key things. But equally, you have to understand that some days are just going to be hard, and you have to make sure you try and get some rest. And it does happen. If you're away for a long time, working very hard, you come back and you're just tired. The key thing is that you have to try and take a holiday. The problem with being a musician or artist of any kind is that you are doing your passion and you don't think about taking a holiday because everyday is not



like working at a proper job. It's really important that we always remember to take holidays. As a musician, one should have one day a week off or one week off every three months just free, shut the piano, do something else, and certainly one month off every year. Because the thing is, and we forget this, art and creativity are kind of like wells. And when you're performing, when you're writing music, when you're creating music, you're drawing from the well. You're always taking out. And at some point, you have to let the well refill and that's what you do when you take other time, when you read books, when you go to art galleries, when you go to the theatre. When you just take walks in the countryside, or when you go hiking, that's the time when you are refilling the creativity. And what happens is, sometimes, particularly when we're younger and we're very dynamic and we want to get our goals, which is good of course, we forget that we need to allow ourselves to replenish, and that's really important. Sometimes we have to find the balance in doing the things we really enjoy, to nourish ourselves.

DSW: What has been the greatest challenge in
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your career so far?

KLR: First of all, trying to do music professionally, trying to make a living out of it by your twenties. Secondly, my big challenge now is my work in India, because there is no place in India where you can study music at the highest level. And one of the toughest challenges is finding your space in the world. What am I giving to the community? What am I doing? I think the toughest challenge is trying to just find that space.

DSW: When you were in school, what other activities did you do? Did you have any other hobbies that clashed with your dreams in music? Did any of them shape you as a pianist? What advice do you have for anyone else experiencing that?

KLR: I was very lucky, I had a scholarship to one of the good schools in England. I had a great education, a really intense, rigorous education, but because it was one of those British public schools, it had lots of extracurricular activities and traditions. So, first of all, we had to do sports. I had to play rugby, I had to play cricket, I had to play hockey. While I don't like outdoor sports, they kept me healthy, they kept me balanced, so that was really good. Second thing, my school was quite a musical school. It had a really good sense of music, great orchestra, a famous choir, and because of that, they taught us a great deal of professionalism in music. So even when I was 12, 13, 14, I was singing professionally in films, the opera, and concerts. So we were taught how to behave, how to act professionally, and how to behave around much older professionals. That was really useful training. By the time I was 18, although I wasn't professional in terms of my skills, I was professional in terms of my mind, my outlook, and that's very important. Another thing we had was the Combined Cadet Force, where the older boys would train as army or navy men. We were trained in shooting, flying, health related subjects, and we would wear uniforms and go off on summer camp. It gave us a bit more balance, a bit more outlook outside school. The school was a very small place and giving you an outlook of what it's like in the Army, what it's like as a musician, what it's like as a sportsman were all really useful. By the time I was 16, I was just getting intensely into music, and the school understood this and gave me more time out of my studies to practice. At least they could be flexible. The second thing is that they didn't ever allow me to do less well. Good musicians are very broadly educated. All the greatest musicians I've ever met talk about philosophy, they talk about science, they speak languages. They're really intensely creative, intelligent people. The great thing is my school trained me to think and want to be curious. In that way it was great

because they never let me do music alone, they urged me to be very widely educated. The advice: learn very quickly how to be organized because at school, and later at music college and university, you do not have time to waste. The time you use now will reap rewards in your later life. You lose one hour now, you've lost fifty hours later. The last thing that is really important is socialization. It is the connection between friends, and I know this is really hard during the pandemic, but those connections between friends last a lifetime. Literally just a few days ago, I had a Zoom meeting with my friends from school. We still get together, we still fire off of each other, we still have really broad conversations and narrow conversations. Many of your friends will be the people you are with for the rest of your lives. A support network as much as anything else. I think those are the key things.

DSW: How can aspiring musicians create opportunities for themselves to open up careers in music? What kind of opportunities? How did you do it?

KLR: All aspiring musicians need to understand that as a musician, you are also an entrepreneur, you are a businessman in some ways. You are the person who will create these opportunities and make things happen. How are you going to do it? It's going to be done by networking, being sociable, by putting on a concert and getting people to come to it, whether it's on Zoom or a concert hall. In terms of opportunities, you will certainly have to spend at least 5-6 years training at a high level to get up to the standard of international performances. In my case, and many others, we competed in music competitions and tried to get noticed. Each time you give a concert, your reputation is on the line. After the concerts, you have to appear, for lack of a better word, "worthy" to your sponsors for obvious reasons. When I was a professor at Trinity College London, music students were not allowed to graduate without completing a course in business or entrepreneurship so that they would be able to give a concert on their own, advertise for the concert, and get their audience. I can tell you that in all my experiences playing all over the world, there is no place with more opportunities to play concerts on your own than in India. In London, if I play a concert on a Wednesday night, there are probably seven other pianists playing a concert that very evening, so I am playing for about a seventh of the possible audience. If I give a concert in Mumbai, I'm probably going to be the only one in the city, and 16 million people are living in greater Mumbai. That's the opportunity of a lifetime. Southeast Asia has the biggest demand for classical musicians in the world. A good musician is always trying to balance opportunity, demand, and integrity.

Problem of the Week

1. Can you find a three digit number which is equal to the sum of the hundred's digit, the square of the ten's digit, and the cube of the one's digit?
2. A polite number can be written as the sum of two or more consecutive positive integers. For example, $8 + 9 + 10 = 27$ is a polite number. Can you find some more polite and impolite numbers?

Source: <https://nrich.maths.org/14842>

The Weekly wishes
you all the best for
the upcoming trials!

“

Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish
by its ability to climb a tree, it will spend its
whole life believing that it is stupid.

—
Albert Einstein

What Have You Been Reading During the Lockdown?

**What If?: Serious Scientific Answers to
Absurd Hypothetical Questions**

Author : Randall Munroe

What If is an absurd and interesting book by cartoonist and engineer Randall Munroe, wherein he answers a number of wacky, often bizarre questions most people didn't know they wanted the answers to. The great thing about this book is that he answers the questions so seriously and with legitimate scientific answers while keeping an element of whimsy. It asks questions such as 'what would happen if you threw a baseball at the speed of light?' and 'what would happen if you were to gather a mole of moles?'. All in all, *What If* is both educational and entertaining.

-Vivaan Sood

What Have You Been Watching During the Lockdown?

Knives Out (13+)

Director : Rian Johnson

Starring Chris Evans, Daniel Craig, Ana de Armas and many more, *Knives Out* is inspired by Sidney Lumet's *Murder on the Orient Express*. The circumstances surrounding the death of crime novelist Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer) are mysterious, but there's one thing that renowned Detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) knows for sure -- everyone in the wildly dysfunctional Thrombey family is a suspect. A must-watch for all thriller lovers, I highly recommend this movie to all!

-Zubin Mehra

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