

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
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A Historic Farewell

The Doon School Weekly bids farewell to Mr. Mohit Sinha. *On this occasion, his friends, students, and colleagues share their thoughts on their time spent with him.*

I didn't have much interaction with MHS Sir until the end of my C Form, however, the next 4 years definitely made up for the lost time (now he's probably sick of me). My journey with Sir started off in his class in B & A Form when he had just become Assistant Housemaster of Jaipur House. From there it went to ice cold January morning Yearbook pictures at the Pavilion and late-night flag counting sessions just before DSMUN. MHS Sir has definitely been a constant source of support throughout my school life just like he has been for many other Jaipur House boys. How I wish I could celebrate one last inter-house victory with him, all sweaty and muddy, with a can of ginger ale in his drawing room.

Thank you MHS Sir!

- Jahaan Sahgal



If there exists a mould for a quintessential public schoolmaster, then MHS certainly had his die cast in it! I first heard of Mohit when he was teaching History at a neighbouring boys' school in the city. The excited buzz emanating from there was that there was a young man, steeped in the public school ethos of delivering an all round education to students who, in a very short span of time, was mentoring and channeling the boys there to open up their minds and make the most of their abilities. Although one can attribute some of that ingrained culture to his own schooling and college experiences where he was himself influenced by stellar masters and educational stalwarts, there is certainly more that has made him a dedicated young man of conviction who is continually investing in young people and their futures. And that, I would venture, is the life choice and pursuit that Mohit has made his personal mission – the provision of quality education. As he moves ahead to acquire more learning and expertise in the field, I wish him *bonne chance*!

- STK

It seems like it was just yesterday when a soft-spoken, charming young man joined the School and the department. Eight years later, when he is all set to leave Doon, my mind is awash with memories of the time we spent together as members of the "Independent Republic" of History. Memories of the times when we debated fiercely over the exact logistics for The Founder's Day exhibition to the times when we realized to our utter horror that a crucial document that we had been working on, had got deleted, come to mind. The excitement of coordinating remotely to meet the deadline only cemented our camaraderie further.

Working closely with Mohit opened my eyes to how much thought he put into his role as a teacher, revealing his firm conviction that a teacher's role, which goes far beyond merely transacting syllabus, is to teach students

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values for life. Consequently, his relentless endeavour while at School has always been to inculcate in his students’ values of decency and honor. He did this by living these values himself. His courage to speak up against decisions and actions that go against these values, even if it made him unpopular, is well known even among his students.

Now that he is ready to step out of Doon to follow his dreams for the future, I wish him success in everything that he does and all the happiness that comes from realizing one’s dreams.

- PDT

I didn’t have many interactions with MHS Sir before C Form except for those occasional basketball games at the Old Courts in D Form or just him greeting our Form at the CDH with the most infectious smile! However, in C Form, I was lucky enough to have him as my teacher. The constant ragging of Aradhya or mocking the other “mutts” seemed to fit perfectly in the routine of C4. All in all, I can’t thank Sir enough for all the tips and tricks and extremely interactive lessons. You will be dearly missed by all of us, Sir, and I wish you the best for whatever the future holds for you.

- Sriyash Tantia

I entered my first history lesson at School, and there he was standing on top of the desk with a red marker in his hand, commanding us to sit row by row. I have been in his class for 6 years, but I can proudly say I have learned more life skills than history. MHS Sir has been more a parent on campus than a teacher in a classroom. From telling us about his philosophy of growth of character to teaching us the “finer things in life,” MHS Sir made sure he left an everlasting impression in the minds of everyone he met. With a man who has seen all phases of life, it is my honor to say that I am truly grateful to have gotten a chance to know him.

- Pranav Lohia

In a single word or a phrase, MHS Sir can simply not be described. He is such a versatile, knowledgeable and composed person. He is probably the coolest master I have been a student of and worked with. Sir played multiple roles in my School life, ranging from my housemaster to my history teacher to a coach on the field and most importantly, being a mentor and a friend. I was in denial and couldn’t believe that he was actually leaving School till he confirmed it himself. It would be really hard for me and many others to think about the School without MHS Sir. I can’t thank Sir enough for making such a crucial impact not just on my life but on the whole School community. I wish him all the best for his future endeavours and hope we remain in touch. Thank You Sir for everything, your presence will be truly missed by everyone in this community.

- Gursanjan Natt

Olympics

The Doon School Weekly writes about the history of the ancient and modern Olympic Games.

Full of blood, passion, and extraordinary feats of athletic endeavour, the Olympic Games were the sporting highlight of the Ancient Greeks. They began in 776 B.C. and were held every four years during a religious festival honouring Zeus, and derived its name from its location at Olympia, a sacred site in southern Greece. Participation in the ancient Olympic Games was initially limited to male citizens of Greece. There were no women’s events, and married women were prohibited from spectating the competition. Despite this, the Games were attended by millions of people and was an event anticipated by all. However, after the Roman Empire conquered Greece in the mid-second century B.C., the quality of the Games

steadily declined. The outcomes of the events were predetermined as certain athletes were given unfair advantages. For instance, the Roman Emperor Nero once declared himself the winner of the chariot race despite leaving it halfway. Eventually, the Emperor Theodosius, a devout Christian, called for a ban on all “pagan” festivals, ending the ancient Olympic tradition after nearly 12 centuries. It would be another 1,500 years before the Games would be revived. The rebirth of the Olympic Games was largely due to the efforts of Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France. Dedicated to the promotion of physical education, the young baron became inspired by the

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FAREWELL ASSEMBLY

The following are the awards given out during the **Special Assembly** held on **July 26**:

General Proficiency: Aryaman Khosla

Best Painter: Chetanya Baid

Best Sculpture: Aarnav Bahl

Best Artist: Shivya Majumdar

Superama Scholarship and Award for

Contribution in Hindi Drama: Kartik Rathore

Best Musician: Sparsh Garg

Contribution to Popular Music: Rishav Misra

Best Percussionist: Rishav Misra

Best Instrumentalist: Sriman Goel

Best Vocalist: Rushil Choudhary

Best Extra Curricular Work in Science: Arnav Agarwal, Varchaswa Mukim, Udaya Goel, Sriman Goel

Environmentalist of the Year: Varen Talwar, Udaya Goel, Sriman Goel

Best Work in Computers: Vansh Gupta

Best Debater: Nirvair Singh

Photographer of the year: Gautam Singhal

Motor Mechanic of the year: Yash Sarin

King Constantine Award for Contribution to Round Square Ideals: Yash Sarin

Kanwar J.B. Singh Award (Medal) for Community Service: Kartik Rathore

School Colours

Arnav Agarwal, Aryaman Khosla, Kartik Rathore, Ajaypartap Grewal, Varen Talwar, Aarnav Sethy, and Ishaan Singhee were awarded **School Colours**.

Congratulations!

TECHNOLOGICAL WIZARDS

13 students represented School in the online **IPSC IT Fest**, held on **July 24** and **25**. The following are the results:

PAIK-Cyber Themed Stills and Writing Installation: Aditya Gupta and Arnav Khemka were awarded the **First Place**.

Babbage Programming: Arnav Pratap Chaudhry was awarded the **First Place**.

Lovelace-UI/UX Design: Krishnav Singhal and Ganadipathi Aryan were awarded the **Second Place**.

CAPEK-Trialogue Radio Play: Aditya Gupta, Aadi Jain and Taarak Harjai were awarded the **Second Place**.

Kudos!

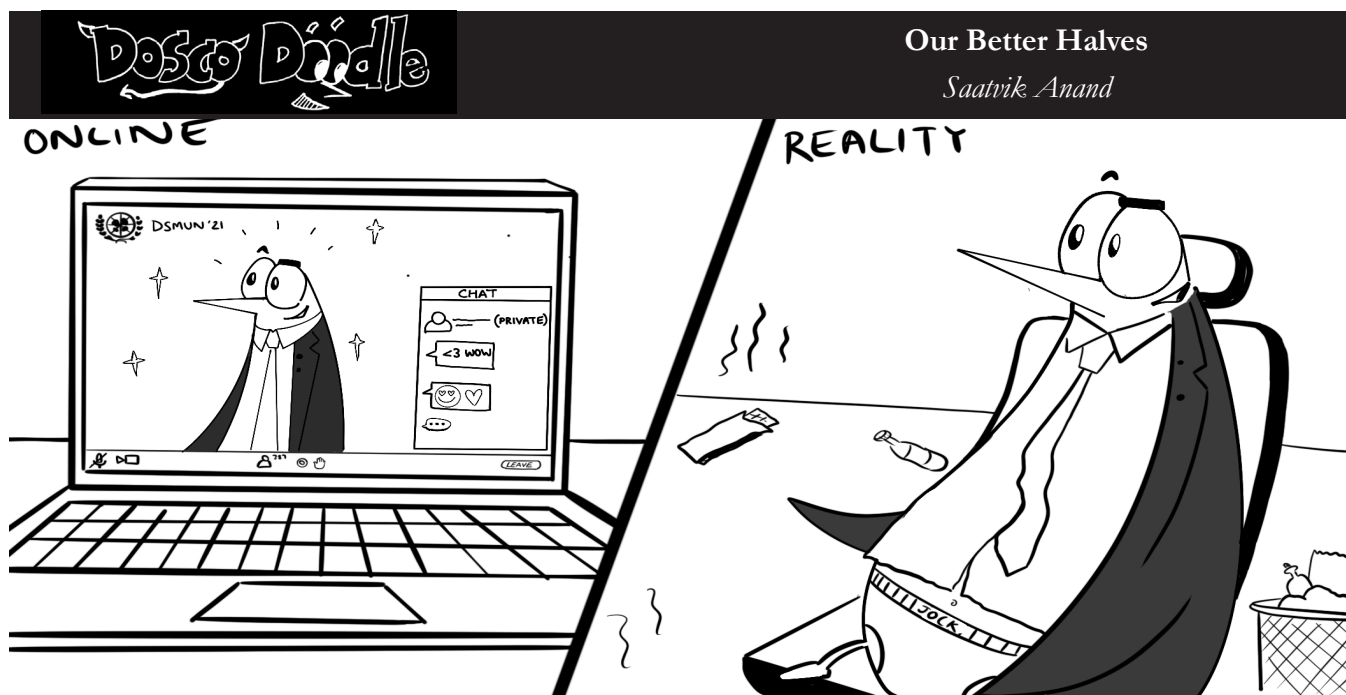
Around the World in 80 Words

Bangladesh evacuated 10,000 Rohingya settlers from a refugee camp on the Myanmar border after monsoon landslides and flash floods threatened the area. US lawmakers introduced a bill to end a programme allowing foreign students to stay in the country after finishing their studies. Mexico stated that its officials spent \$61 million on Pegasus Spyware. P.V. Sindhu reached the badminton women's singles semi-finals at the Tokyo Olympics, while boxer Lovina Borgohain reached the semi-finals in the women's welterweight category.

“

Think of many things. Never place your happiness in one person's power. Be just to yourself.

—
Vikram Gupta



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idea of creating the modern Olympic Games after visiting the ancient Olympic site. In November 1892, at a meeting of the Union des Sports Athlétiques in Paris, Coubertin proposed the idea of reviving the Olympics as an international athletic competition held every four years. The first modern Olympics took place in 1896 in Athens, featuring 280 participants from 12 nations competing in 43 events. Since 1994, the Summer and Winter Olympic Games have been held separately and have alternated every two years. The official symbol of the modern Games became five interlocked coloured rings, representing the continents of North and South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Australia. The Olympic flag, which features this symbol on a white background, was hoisted for the first time at the Antwerp Games in 1920. The Olympics truly took off as an international sporting event after 1924, when the 8th modern Games were held in Paris. Some 3,000 athletes from 44 nations, with more than 100 women among them, competed that year. In addition, for the first time, the Games also featured a closing ceremony. The Winter Olympics also debuted that year, including events such as figure skating, ice hockey, bobsledding, and the biathlon.

A major reason for the growing popularity of the Games was the ideology of nationalism, which swept

the world during the early 20th century, leaving its mark on the Olympics. Athletic nationalism was brought to a peak by Nazi Germany, which staged the 1936 Games in Berlin and used the Olympics to propagandize its cause. The Germans built a powerful team through nationalized training and scientific advances and dominated the Games in terms of medals won. It was this performance that pushed the competitive spirit and the importance of the Olympic games. More than any other sporting event, the Games show how politics and athletics are intertwined, from Jesse Owens' triumph at the aforementioned Berlin Olympics (in which he destroyed the idea of Aryan superiority by winning four gold medals) to the International Olympic Committee creating a Refugee Olympic Team at the 2016 Olympics to bring attention to the refugee crisis. Furthermore, world leaders attend the Games and host countries invest billions of dollars to build stadia to highlight their country's achievements. The sight of athletes marching with their country's flags, standing tall as their national anthem resounds in the background truly makes the event a sporting and cultural highlight. It truly is extraordinary to see how the Games transformed from being a Greek religious festival to an event that the entire world keenly watches today.

What are your views on the School schedule and deadlines for IB students?

IA and EE deadlines have always been contentious topics and every batch attempts to push them back. However, given our exceptional situation, I definitely feel that there is not enough time for them to be completed within the current deadlines. This is due to a few structural reasons. Firstly, most of us do not have access to a laboratory and for subjects like chemistry, it is nearly impossible to collect primary data without a laboratory. Using secondary data isn't an attractive option either as such IAs tend to score lower. There is also minimal information from IB regarding how a data-based IA or extended essay should be conducted. Furthermore, secondary data is scarce, especially when we do not have access to paid databases. Being away from campus, we are compelled to find data that is free; but such data is often not specific to our experiments or relevant for it to be useful. Additionally, it is likely that we will be returning to School by August end and therefore it seems reasonable to extend the deadlines till after exams so that we can use the labs at School effectively and produce quality IA documents. IAs can still be used to calculate our September marks, it is just that they have to be added later. For instance, in Maths, we are yet to completely cover integration, which some of us might want to use in our IAs. Furthermore, by my calculations, we have nearly 70 pages of work due right before our most important high school exams. With these deadlines, we will have no time left to study for exams. In the past, IA and EE first drafts were submitted in December, which is much more time than we have. COVID-19 has made it very

difficult to conduct IAs and EEs and therefore it is unreasonable to prepone our deadlines. Lastly, if these documents absolutely have to be submitted so soon, we should have received greater support in the summer vacations. For example, the EE workshops that were meant to take place in the summers should have been held. Furthermore, it was difficult to complete our IAs in the summer because this summer was crucial for doing internships and projects for college. Last summer, lockdown was harsher and therefore projects that should have been started then spilled over into this summer, leaving very little time for IAs and EEs. Additionally, this work has to be done alongside two of the biggest inter-school events School holds: DSMUN and Chuckerbutty debates. The current deadlines have already led to multiple sleepless nights and incredible stress, and considering revisiting the calendar will come as a huge relief to the SC-IB cohort.

- Kabir Singh Bhai

School's decision to place early deadlines on the IAs has received mixed reviews. However, I personally feel that although an early deadline would reduce the burden which the students face in the latter half of the School year, preparing and submitting the first draft for all IAs so early is not ideal. After being informed of IA deadlines at the beginning of the summer vacations of 2021 left us with barely three months to complete four IAs along with the extended essays and a TOK exhibition. The workload of completing such demanding work has made it impossible for students to focus on other activities. Moreover, the unavailability of laboratory facilities while at home has also made it difficult for the students to collect data, increasing the workload on the students. I believe that although the deadlines are placed with an optimistic aim for the future, these are not ideal, keeping in mind constraints of time and resource availability.

- Aadit Mittal

At 7:30 AM, all of us wake up to start a fresh day at school from the comfort of our homes. At 1:40 PM, the last school ends. Those six hours seem ginormous and overwhelming at times. After sitting at our laptops or tablets for a quarter of a day, we then have online society or publication meetings at 3 PM, and on specific days, students attend various activities. After that, 4:30 to 5:30 PM is reserved for sports and physical activities behind a computer screen, which is not only unprecedented, but quite demanding as well. However, our day does not end there. The rest of the day goes into various other commitments students may have, such as assignments, projects, research work or even online courses in some cases. On a few odd days, students also attend workshops or other School-organized events. The constant deadlines, documentation and academics has been very detrimental to our mental and physical health.

While this does seek to recreate the busy lives we lived within the beautiful walls of Chandbagh, doing all of this behind a screen can often be excessively taxing. Free time is quite important, and in many cases, none is left because the aforementioned activities and events take priority over it during the day. Our screen times are at all time highs and our health may be compromised if we overwork ourselves. Time management is a seemingly viable solution, but how can one manage time if there is none left to manage?

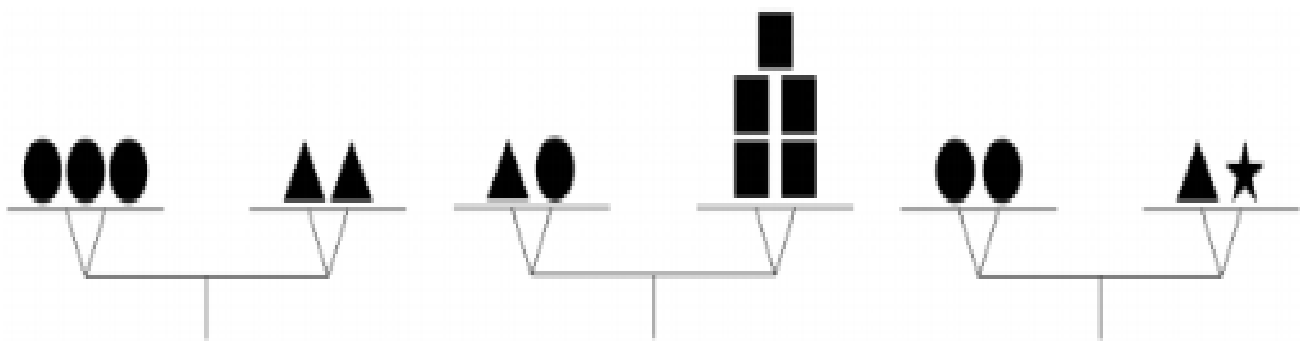
- Vihan Ranka

Now, with the new schedule in place, our days are packed with extracurricular activities and online sports sessions. Although our days have become exhausting, this is a brief glimpse of the rigour which Doscocs experience in School. By attending these sessions, the people who have never been on campus get to know more about the community and explore the range of extra curricular activities; more importantly, they get a chance to meet their seniors, who teach them important skills, and they learn about the School culture. Also, the alternative of not having this schedule would be late night bingeing. Therefore, the current schedule ensures that students remain engaged in productive activities. In addition, staring at the same screen for the same classes at the same time every day means that after a certain amount of time, students lose zeal and energy. The new schedule offers more than this, something different and meaningful.

- Devank Agarwalla

Problem of the Week

The three scales shown below are balanced. The mass of the Star is one kilogram. Which of the other objects (the circle, the square, and the triangle) also has a mass equivalent to one kilogram.



Source: Cmc Waterloo

What Have You Been Reading During The Lockdown?

Private Peaceful
Author: Michael Morpugo

‘Innocence and Love, Courage and Cowardice,’ these four words on the cover perfectly encompass this novel. *Private Peaceful* is narrated by Thomas Peaceful as he looks back at his life, from his childhood on a serene countryside to his experiences in World War 1. The novel unflinchingly explores the horrors, injustice and futility of war as we follow Thomas who, placed at the mercy of an incompetent commander, watches his friends die before him, suffering agony and grief, but also finding love. This award-winning book truly is a page-turner and is a very emotive book, one that I recommend to everyone, no matter what genres you prefer.

- Sriyash Tantia

What Have You Been Watching During The Lockdown?

The Pursuit of Happyness
Director: Gabriele Muccino

This heartfelt movie is based on the life of the successful businessman Chris Gardner. A financially struggling salesman is left by his wife and has to take care of his five-year-old son. Soon enough, he also gets evicted and turns homeless, but he is granted a glimmer of hope when he is offered an unpaid internship for six months after he impresses the lead manager of a company by solving a Rubik’s cube. He gets a small chance of getting a job there if he performs well in this internship. This movie shows us how, with all his struggle and hard work, he finally tastes success. I would recommend this movie to anyone who likes emotional and inspirational movies.

- Krishang Arora

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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