

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
September 17, 2022 | Issue No. 2652



BACK TO BASICS

A report on the recently-held Bass Workshop.

Page 3

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A response to the article *Off the Blocks* from issue 2650.

Page 3

WEEK GONE BY

A humorous account of the events of the past week.

Page 4

A Holistic Legacy

Abhay Jain *talks about School and its co-curricular activities.*

Our founding Masters and Headmasters had a vision of the the 'Aristocracy of Service' that its alumni should aspire to live up to. In order to ensure that this vision materialises, Mr A.E. Foot, our founding Headmaster implemented the idea of STAs and SUPWs, laying down the foundation for creating the essence of a true Dosco. The entire system succeeded to such an extent that our School became a trailblazer, a trendsetter for other schools and the nation's people alike. The purpose of the STA and SUPW system was to help nurture the talent in DoscOs during their formative and impactful years in Chandbagh. However, this system is not as efficient or useful as it was at its inception. This, of course, makes us question, where did we go wrong?

The role of STAs and SUPWs in the development of a Dosco is absolutely vital. Firstly, STAs and SUPWs provide the student body, especially the Juniors, with a platform to work with experienced people in their fields of interest, be it a Master or a Senior. More importantly, these activities provide an opportunity for representing School, be it for a model UN conference or a chess competition. Furthermore, STAs and SUPWs provide students with the empirical soft skills that are absolutely essential for the world that awaits us outside the four walls of our campus.

Juniors would have comprised

the majority of the membership of STAs and SUPWs in the past. Until a few years ago, Juniors used to pick one Club, Service or STA to specialise in. They then dedicated their spare time primarily to these very activities. However, that practice no longer seems to be followed. Societies and Clubs are now seeing a slew of DoscOs who seem to have no set activity they want to pursue, which has sounded the death knell for several "less college-resume lucrative" activities in School. Many DoscOs, right from their Junior days, try to attend myriad activities, often those that have no correlation with each other, in a bid to add diversity of interest to their resume for college applications. This dilutes the skills they gain from specialising in a single activity. It also has a profound impact on the quality of extracurricular learning for growing DoscOs, as the lack of specialisation means that they will be unable to develop important and unique skills that would have eventually benefited them in the long run.

However, this same issue goes both ways. It is only natural that a lack of participation will be spurred by a lack of growth and development in the activities themselves. We have seen Society and Club meetings become less and less frequent in occurrence. This leads to the question - why would people dedicate so much time and energy in order to receive a position of respect and authority in

a Club, and then go on to neglect the responsibilities that come with the role? The simple truth of the situation is that many of these positions are only building blocks to a stronger resume or application. This appalling abuse and neglect of responsibility leads to a decrease in the reputation of the activity itself. As a result, Clubs and Societies that would meet every week now barely meet. Why would it be worth dedicating yourself to a Society or Club if it barely meets at all?

This has resulted in Juniors attending activities that seem more important, as it was possible to carry on with these activities despite COVID due to their adaptability to going online, such as Debating and MUNs, becoming the more sought-after activities. During this period of indecision, Juniors are looking to consolidate their names in these activities as they provide glimpses of consistency, and assure a good resume for their senior years. Furthermore, the two years of online schooling took a debilitating toll on our communication skills, which hinders several DoscOs from comprehending basic instructions and announcements, effectively causing several Clubs and Society meetings to have partial attendance due to Juniors not being sure what the decided venue or time was.

Another issue that plagues STA and SUPW participation is the increased

(Continued on Page 3)

PROLIFIC POETS

The following are the results of the **Individual Hindi Poetry Writing Competition**:

Juniors:

1st: Krishiv Jaiswal

2nd: Aayan Gupta

Seniors:

1st: Ruhaan Goel

2nd: Tamish Agarwal and Satvik Petwal

Kudos!

ELEGANT ELOCUTIONISTS

The Doon School participated in the 13th edition of the **Singapore International School Confluence** held online from the **3rd to 4th September**.

After the preliminary round, the debating team comprising Harshil Makin, Kai Kubo, Krishiv Jaiswal and, Mohd. Omar Malik advanced to the finals.

The Doon School was adjudged the **3rd Best Team** of the tournament and Mohd. Omar Malik was adjudged the **Best Interjector** of the final round.

Congratulations!

वीकली की ओर से सभी को हिंदी दिवस की
ढेर सारी शुभकामनाएँ एवं बधाइयाँ

FANATICAL FOOTBALLERS

The School Football Team participated in the **Senior Council Football Tournament 2022** organised by **St Joseph's Academy, Dehradun** from **27th August to 7th September**.

The School Team won the **Tournament** in a closely contested final match against **Shishya Public School**, ending 3-2.

Congratulations!

CHECKMATE

The School was represented by Shaurya Agarwal and Aayan Gupta in the **DCSA Council's RC Singhal Memorial Inter School Chess Tournament** which was held at **Ann Mary School** from the **1st to 2nd September**.

Shaurya Agarwal won the **Championship** in the **Senior Boys Category**.

Well done!

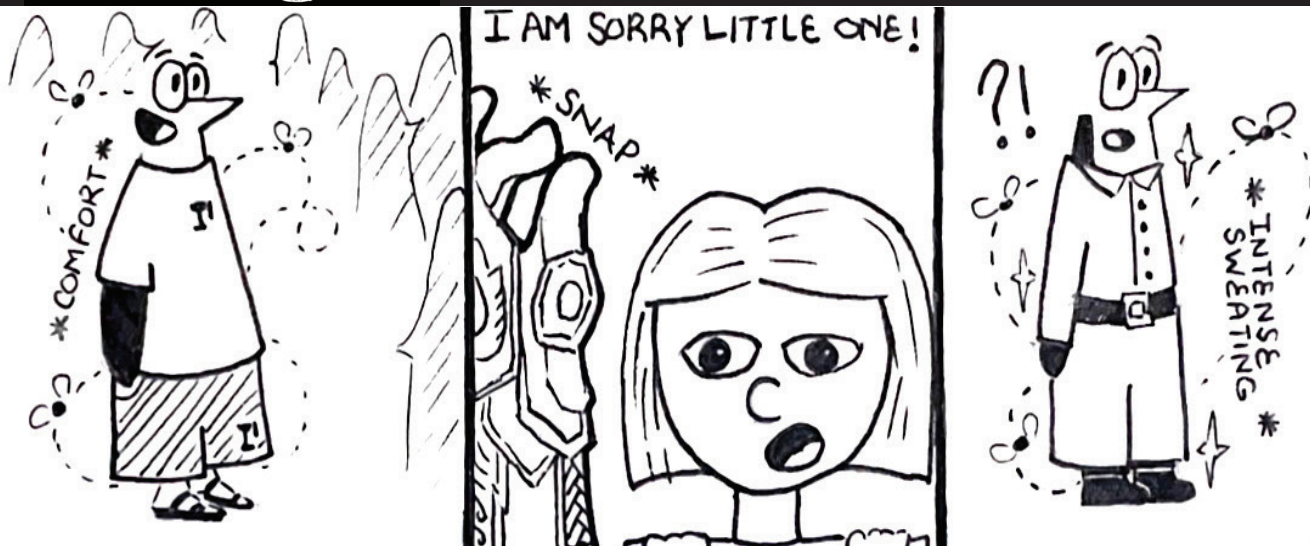
Around the World in 80 Words

William Ruto was sworn in as Kenya's president. Lee Jung-Jae became the first Asian actor to win an Emmy. India got its first High Throughput Satellite Broadband Service, boosting connectivity in unserved areas. Twitter's shareholders voted to approve a deal with Elon Musk to buy the company for \$44 billion. Swiss tennis player Roger Federer announced his retirement from tennis following the Laver Cup, after a career that spanned 24 years. Sri Lanka won the 2022 Asian Cup cricket tournament.

Dosco Doodle

Inevitable...

Pragyan Goel



(Continued from Page 1)

dependence on electronics among Juniors in nearly all School matters. Ever since the Pandemic, we have seen an increased dependence on technology for nearly the entire School. However, this increased screen time has affected Juniors the most as they no longer see activities as mandatory anymore. The 'Aristocracy of Service', which our first Headmaster talked about, seems to hold little to no meaning for several Juniors and, sadly, a

few Seniors as well. The entire purpose of STAs and SUPWs has been diluted since the increase of technology in School. DoscOs find it more convenient to laze around and misuse their technological access to spend their time in a way they would like rather than rough it out during STA/SUPW time.

These issues individually may seem trivial; however, they have snowballed into creating a giant mound of DoscOs who end up being unruly, unskilled, and lacking

in passion. Sadly, these are three very apt adjectives to describe the average DoscO of 2022. However, it is heartening to see that there are still quite a few students out there who are trying to salvage the culture of our School in the arena of activities, and they are leading by example. As DoscOs, working on ourselves to graduate as the best possible version of ourselves is what we should strive towards, and STAs and SUPWs are crucial in helping us realise this ambition.

Back to Basics

Aadi Jain and Vignesh Dodla recount their experience of the recently-held Bass Workshop.

The Bass Workshop, conducted over the past few days, proved to be an enriching experience for all the budding guitarists and musicians on campus. The workshop was conducted by Mr Naveen Napier, who has played and composed numerous songs which have accumulated hundreds of millions of views, strongly establishing himself in the bass community.

Mr Napier is a staunch believer that just by the virtue of being a good player of your instrument, you do not become a good musician. It is much more important to be able to constantly adapt to your surroundings and harmonise with the other members of the band or orchestra, and integrate your part into the performance as a whole. He also believes that being minimalistic is not necessarily a bad thing; it can go very

well with songs that are complicated.

The workshop started out with Mr. Napier telling us to play a piece for him so that he could gauge which stage we were all at. During our performances, he showed us his amazing listening skills and musicianship by just picking up a guitar and providing a beautiful harmony to accompany each and every one of our pieces. This was followed by a question and answer session, which eventually led to an important lesson on time signatures in which he taught us how to count beats, especially irregular ones, stating that if we knew how to count irregular time signatures, we would be in higher demand than most other musicians.

On the second day, Mr Napier had a session with the School Popular Band, where he talked about and analysed the song titled, *Yeh Fitoor*.

Despite this being his first time listening to this song, he was able to provide essential and insightful inputs into the song, giving us a whole new perspective. After this, he helped the School's Popular Band come up with an impromptu idea for a song, which we then played. Needless to say, this was a rejuvenating experience for the band, as we learned about songwriting which will surely prove to be invaluable for composing actual songs.

Mr Napier was very professional in teaching the students how to play the bass guitar, patiently showing us the techniques no matter how long it took for us to learn. We would like to thank him for guiding us through this workshop and giving us a glimpse into what a career in music can look like.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter refers to the article, 'Off the Blocks' written by Rohan Kailath in issue 2650, dated September 3, 2022.

The article claims to be a report on the recently-concluded Inter-House Swimming Competition. I commend the author on naming the budding swimmers, something which will surely boost their confidence. The article also carried some imagery of neck-to-neck finishes which helps the reader to visualise the events. The writer had

covered most facts correctly, however, report writing needs to be fair and unbiased, the article seemed to tilt towards the glorification of a particular House's achievements. The position of the House winning the Mediums Cup was mentioned, which makes the reader feel that as a highlight, however the Junior and Senior Cup has just not been mentioned. The fact that the House Cup was won by a House by a hundred-point margin perhaps just slipped out of the enthusiastic

Kashmir House writer.

Although the disclaimer of the *Weekly* states that the views are of the author and not of the *Weekly*, I feel that it should be the responsibility of the *Weekly* to then put these articles into a correct perspective. This should then have not been printed as a report but as an account through the eyes of the writer.

Regards,
RHS

The Week Gone By

Yashovat Nandan

Apart from the much-dreaded Trials, another hammer crashing down on Doon this week marked the start of the dengue season. Dengue-scare brought with it the rather awkward white, full-sleeved uniforms making a reappearance on campus at the beginning of this week.

With all Inter-House Competitions on a temporary hiatus, most DoscOs appropriately decided to put their time to better use by frantically revising for the ongoing exams, which are especially important for

the Sc Form batch who will soon be running at the Masters' heels for that extra point or percentage to be added to their predicted scores. Mixed feelings followed the declaration of results of the SAT examination this week, affecting the attitude towards Mid-Years, with the high-scorers being overcome with a sense of euphoria and those on the lower end of the spectrum wailing- 'ab kya hi hoga humara'.

The toll of the Main Building bell, once eagerly awaited, has now become the harbinger of anxiety and destruction for the students, and much to the dismay of a few DoscOs, the only paradise during an exam - the toilets, are now under the keen and watchful eye of the Academic Office. Although there have been no unscrupulous incidents thus far, we must remember that one long and

taxing week of Trials still remains. However, I do implore you, my dear DoscOs, please do not be tempted to take the wrong decision for it has implications you may not be able to fathom right now.

As we all eagerly await the end of Trials and the start of Mid-terms, we must also remember that the road ahead is not one of ease and soon enough you will find yourselves knee-deep in preparations for Founder's Day Program. Along with the residents of the House of Swans, who have been tasked with shouldering the herculean responsibility of organising the *pagal gymkhana* this year, each and every one of your dreams of being able to catch up on sleep will be swiftly dashed when we are launched into Founder's Day practises in full swing once again.

Wordsearch | Controversial Historical Artefacts

1. A granite slab with three versions of a decree issued by Ptolemy V, and is on display in the British Museum.
2. This 2500-year-old vase is decorated with scenes from Homer's *Iliad*.
3. This 3500-year-old bust of an Egyptian Queen was taken to Germany after being illegally smuggled out of Egypt.
4. Napoleon's troops took this statue from the Church of Our Lady, which had held it since 1514.
5. Looted from an Iraqi museum during the 1991 Gulf War, this tablet tells the epic Akkadian poem.
6. An allegedly "cursed" diamond, it is now embedded in the crown of the Queen Mother.
7. During the British invasion of Ethiopia in 1868, these treasures were taken after a battle, including an ornate gold crown.
8. One of the many entrances to the inner city of Babylon, this structure was constructed by King Nebuchadnezzar II, but then excavated and moved to Germany between 1899 and 1917.

W U F U Q Y J Z P I F J E A M Q N Z J L
 N P X Q N R P Q N D H U L N T I K P K V
 S F D A G A M L I V I A O F P R F I K E
 E U F A S V J E E S D K W S E D X D C K
 I U Z P W R V C F Q H Z F T M R J K N F
 I K H Y D W Y F A F O T A T M Z F V W O
 Y Z S P W T O M X C W R A J Q B Y Y Q W
 Z V E R Y R J L K U K D N R R M Z Y X G
 R M M C B U Y F E S S T U U W V D G W R
 J F A X U U C R O K O B G I G X J Q G M
 G B G O L E U I P G C E I D Y F X R C C
 C P L J W D N Z K V S T S I C C F E M S
 Z M I G Z O I Y T M I X S F L G A B B X
 B B G Z R K S R A T B N G O R F S R O J
 K D K H U H Z D R I J C F D M K W Q O B
 V L P N G J O E L B F P G U B L G M N M
 I U A J Z N F U I Q K O H I N O O R S U
 E R I X N E N O T S A T T E S O R J C B
 M U K A N D N Q Z U T F E P K M R Q Z D
 Y M X M A N L M P E K A D T L O R Y U D

1. Rosetta Stone
2. Euphrontios Krater
3. Nefertiti
4. Bruges Madonna
5. Gilgamesh
6. Kohinoor
7. Magdala
8. Ishtar

Answers of this week's wordsearch

Source: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/wordsearch/#top>

The views expressed in articles printed are their 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: Armaan Rathi **Editor:** Ahan Jayakumar **Senior Editors:** Saatvik Anand, Shreyan Mittal, Vihan Ranka **Hindi Editor:** Sudhanshu Chowdhry **Associate Editors:** Abhay Jain, Tarun Doss, Vinesh Uniyal, Yashovat Nandan **Special Correspondents:** Arav Khanal, Arjun Prakash, Neel Sahai, Vivaan Sood **Correspondents:** Ganadhipati Aryan, Harshil Makin, Krish Agrawal, Pragyan Goel **Cartoonists:** Rohan Taneja, Vivaan Malik **Webmaster:** Kritika Jugran **Assistant Managers:** Devender Mishra, Moulee Goswami, Purnima Dutta.