

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
November 26, 2022 | Issue No. 2661



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The Final Symphony

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

A man with a golden heart, a great mentor, and one of the most fantastic senior colleagues to work with. My association with ABC Sir has been for more than 12 years now, and over this time I have made a series of sweet and beautiful memories that I will forever cherish. He has not only accompanied me on stage but also helped me in various stages of my life in School professionally as well as personally. He has a great ability to maintain the appropriate balance between both personal and professional life and a unique way of handling the most complex of situations with absolute composure. His decades of hard work, dedication to developing the Music Department, and passion for supporting and encouraging the generations of Doscots' musical journeys can't be quantified by saying thank you. Sir has the most vivid sense of humour that can make anyone crack up and laugh until their stomach hurts. The memories of him sending the whole department into fits of laughter are countless. I hope that this retirement gives him a better chance to bond with friends and family. I wish him the best as he begins this new chapter of life.

-PRY



"Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, caliber, and future of an individual. If the people remember me as a good teacher, that will be the biggest honour for me." -APJ Abdul Kalam. I shower my respect to a Master – Mr. Avijit Chattopadhyay - who we all fondly know as ABC Sir. An illustrious and glorious career, he has lived his life only for his students. A tutor, mentor, master, guide and a confidant whom I have seen always working towards unleashing the potential of each and every student. The beautiful Master-Student relationship is what we value the most on this campus and ABC Sir is a living embodiment of that. He has ensured that his students can navigate through any terrain in life within as well as outside Doon. This is the brilliance of this Master who always prepared students to be ready for a resilient, fulfilled, and happy life. A caring individual who only knows "to labour and not to seek reward". Sir, I have always admired your mindful pauses in the rapid-paced world of education, and your willingness to look around and take everyone along the way. Every Master who has enjoyed his presence has always been mesmerized by his witty and humorous one-liners. You have been a reflective and mindful Master where one saw your student and you play the instruments with complete engagement and absolute devotion. It is time to bow down in front of this Master and say with gratitude, "Thank you Sir for your service to this great institution."

-ANC

(Continued on Page 3)

MIGHT OF THE PEN

Following are the results of the **Inter-House Shanti Swaroop Essay Writing Competition:**

- 1st: Hyderabad House
- 2nd: Tata House
- 3rd: Oberoi House
- 4th: Kashmir House
- 5th: Jaipur House

At an **Individual Level**, following are the results:

- 1st: Hridayam Tusnial and Tanmay Gupta
- 2nd: Aryaveer Agrawal and Devank Agarwalla; Arjun Mitra
- 3rd: Siddhant Abani and Anshul Kakkar

Kudos!

APPOINTMENTS

The following are the appointments for the **Year 2022-23:**

SEDS:

- Secretary: Aryaveer Agrawal
- Boy-in-charge: Karan Agarwal

Publications:

The Yearbook:

- Editors-in-Chief: Vivaan Malik and Shehzaad Shergill
- Chief of Production: Gursanjan Natt
- Senior Editors: Neil Bulchandani and Yuvan Kamdar

- Circle: Aryaveer Agrawal
- DSIR: Rohan Taneja
- Infinity: Svanik Garg
- VIBGYOR: Siddhant Srivastava

AV Squad: Arnav Khemka and Krishnav Sachdev

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

RISING INTELLECTUAL

Tanmay Gupta has been awarded the **Scholars' Blazer**.

Congratulations!

“

I once cried because I had no shoes to play soccer, but one day, I met a man who had no feet.

Zinedine Zidane

MUSICAL MAESTROS

Following are the results of the **Inter-House Music Competition:**

- 1st: Jaipur
- 2nd: Oberoi
- 3rd: Hyderabad
- 4th: Tata
- 5th: Kashmir

Well done!

HONORARY ORATORS

Following are the results of the **Inter-House Debating Competition:**

Seniors:

- 1st: Hyderabad
- 2nd: Oberoi
- 3rd: Tata
- 4th: Kashmir
- 5th: Jaipur

House:

- 1st: Oberoi
- 2nd: Tata and Hyderabad
- 3rd: Kashmir
- 5th: Jaipur

Juniors:

- 1st: Oberoi
- 2nd: Tata
- 3rd: Kashmir
- 4th: Hyderabad
- 5th: Jaipur

Kudos!

ASTOUNDING ELOCUTERS

Following are the results of the **Inter-House Hindi Poetry Recitation Competition:**

- 1st: Hyderabad
- 2nd: Oberoi
- 3rd: Jaipur
- 4th: Tata
- 5th: Kashmir

Congratulations!

Around the World in 80 Words

Powerful explosions from shelling caused a blackout in three nuclear power plants, including the biggest one in Europe, in Zaporizhzhia. Tensions arose between Israel and Palestine following two explosions in Jerusalem that killed two and injured many more. An earthquake of magnitude 6.9 on the Richter scale struck Indonesia and caused 271 fatalities. Twitter laid off 4400 contractual workers a week after firing 50 percent of its workforce. FIFA World Cup favourites, Argentina were beaten 2-1 by Saudi Arabia.

(Continued from Page 1)

I remember how supportive ABC Sir was when it was my first Inter-House solo performance in my B Form, just when I had begun playing the harmonium. Coordination with the tabla is usually always a big worry for most beginner musicians, but ABC Sir made it so simple with his iconic dialogue “I will follow you like a shadow”. His presence itself commanded such respect in the Music School that it is unimaginable, for he has been recognized for the brilliant musician, and more importantly, fabulous human being that he is. He has truly been a Guru to generations of Doscos, like me, being at the core of my musical and personal development. It is truly rare for this School to see Masters such as him, so dedicated to this institution and an inspiration for Juniors. It was my greatest honour to have ever even performed with such a maestro and a gentle soul such as ABC Sir on the same stage in my time here. Music without ABC Sir is unimaginable. Thank you for everything Sir, without you, we are nothing.

-Aryan Prakash

ABC Sir has acted as a pillar of support to the Music School for the past 40 years. His gentle and charismatic aura, along with his caring nature have guided and nurtured generations of musicians who passed out of this hallowed institution. With his rather unique humour, ABC Sir never fails to make us laugh in the Music School, lightening up every conversation and never taking anything to heart. For me, ABC Sir has been my guru and mentor. Since my home-sick D Form days, all throughout the Pandemic, and now, upon nearing the completion of my A-form, ABC Sir has been the only constant through my musical and personal journey in School. Humble and down to earth, ABC Sir has always tried his level best to instil these values in us. After 40 long years of service, this School won't be the same without ABC Sir. The void he is leaving can never be filled, and the experiences and stories he carries with him can never be repeated or re-lived through anyone else's eyes. Thank you for everything Sir, you will truly be missed.

-Vir Marwah

Letter to the Editor

Some work of noble note, may yet be done
—**Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Ulysses.**

Dear Editor,

The purpose of this letter is to outline (once again) some of our qualms with the current situation of Assembly Talks in School and more importantly, refute some of the blatant fallacies in Yuvraj Sarda's letter, dated November 19, 2022.

Before we move on to the numerous falsehoods propounded by our batchmate, we must address their publication. Views such as “In their [our] view, Assembly Talks have historically not been School-centric” were printed in issue 2660 of the *Weekly* and are a gross misinterpretation of our letter. Nowhere in our letter did we argue or imply this. We merely suggested that ideas beyond the walls of School ought to be spoken about as well to instil a sense of

novelty in the Talks. Now, the writer may be driven by his desire to prove us wrong; however, the *Weekly's* Editorial Board must know better than to facilitate such wild distortion of facts. There lies no journalistic integrity in printing rhetoric stripped of reason, and this is doubly worrying when the rhetoric is so evidently untrue. To that end, dear Editor, you must do better and weed out the misinformation. To the misguided reader, kindly read both letters side by side, you will see our point at once.

Oration

The notion that the lack of effort on the part of the Boy-in-Charge is the *raison d'être* for the sub-par standards of elocution is simply preposterous. Nowhere did we make such an assertion and the reader is welcome to read our previous letter to reach the same conclusion.

Moreover, if the Boy-in-Charge

does feel that the requisite effort is being made by him, then he should not take our letter as an attack on his competency. Instead, he should accept our letter as constructive criticism and seek to improve the status quo by repositioning his rather commendable efforts, after all, who is better to do so than him.

Content

Yuvraj's dismissive view that the content of Assembly Talks has suffered a decline in quality is simply *our opinion*, which is not true. The original letter was written after deliberations and discussions with other members of the School community. Furthermore, much of the attention garnered by the Talks was not due to their substance but because of the controversial and political elements surrounding them. The standing ovation that followed the talk on October 26th,

(Continued overleaf)

and not the content, was the subject of many a conversation! The fact that not a single Sc Former stood up during the ovation suggests that our opinion is echoed by many other members of the community. Moreover, even if it is not the viewpoint of the entire community, that still does not detract from the reasoning behind our points. It would be worth remembering that the truth is not measured in mass appeal.

Pupil and the Pulpit

We must clarify (for it is obvious

that this is unclear to our batchmate) that our intention is not to blame any individual for the poor quality of Assembly Talks. Perhaps it is the Pandemic or the paucity of scholarship in School which is at fault. However, we are of the opinion that the first step in remedying a problem is to acknowledge its existence. Our batchmate is under the impression that we write to “raise alarm” and are inherently critics for criticism’s sake. Again, akin to most of the views aired in his letter, this idea too

is untrue. Our motivation to write lies in our very realistic hope of hearing quality ideas being spoken from the pulpit, by a pupil who is equipped with certain oratory skills. Of that, we remain hopeful, for we are sure of Yuvraj’s determination and ability, not as a reader of LTTEs, but as Boy-in-Charge, and remain hopeful that our vision will be championed by him and his successors.

Sincerely,

Armaan Rathi & Gurmehar Bedi

The Inevitability of Conflict

Krishiv Jaiswal *writes about the essence of conflict in institutions and how to resolve them.*

The Doon School serves as a microcosm of society at large. Should you ask a group of DoscOs whether they have ever been in a conflict, you will see a smirk. Undoubtedly, they have, just like everybody outside in the world does too. Conflict is inevitable. It emerges as a result of differences among people. There will often be situations where individuals clash because they have different cultural roots, personal styles, and viewpoints, as well as goals and objectives. This is true for both school communities and other social settings. Instead of striving for a culture where conflict never arises, schools should focus on creating a culture where disagreements are handled and managed well. This will allow for the respect of cultural diversity, and the inclusion of all students in discussions.

Conversely, if you inquire about people’s experiences in conflicts, you will learn how frequently things do not go well. It’s generally because situations are more often than not handled improperly. It’s usual to have trouble coming up with positive alternatives to progress. There are rifts and the roots of the formation of separate groups and practices such as “form-bullying” originate from these disputes. Conflict consumes a lot of mental energy that could be employed for other things. Violence can result from conflicts on occasion, which causes the harm to be tenfolds worse. However, conflict does not have to be accepted as inevitable; rather, it has to be normalised, and learning how to deal with being considered a priority.

So, the essential question arises, “How do we handle conflicts that feel so frustrating and so aggravating?” You see, DoscOs are very firm in their opinions and rather stubborn. They fall into this false notion that by giving credibility to anything the other side says, he undermines his own arguments. They do all in their power to prove that they’re right and the other one is wrong, and to stifle down others while elevating themselves. Here, the question of “what” is not the

issue. “What is our conflict about?” The “how” is the issue. “How should we argue? How can we interact with others more effectively?”

The fundamental problem is that people get so emotionally attached to their own arguments because they feel that their identity is being threatened. Your emotions suddenly become more vulnerable the instant your identity is enmeshed in these conflicts. The conflict significantly changes, and now your self-worth is at stake. However, in my opinion, this shouldn’t be the case because most conflicts at School are ‘created’ for “fun purposes,” and nobody should feel emotionally attacked because this is ultimately what prepares you for the harsh outside world. Moreover, the more self-aware you are, the more you tend to work to fulfil your objectives while being grounded, even when someone else challenges your beliefs and values.

In School, we typically approach these conflict situations as “me versus you”. Instead, I think we should emphasise on finding common ground with our adversaries so that they might become our friends. As a result, there will longer be much of a conflict, just the two of us struggling with the same issue. Recognise your power in appreciating the other person and respect their perspective. People’s perceptions of you as a person can change when you change the way you engage with them.

To conclude, if one puts these things into practice, one can have more fruitful interactions and it can transform their relationships with Masters and peers in School. Imagine what might occur if we began a revolution of increased understanding, respect, and connection. We can transform the School which we often say “has long lost its essence” and ultimately, the wider world. I feel it’s possible, but it starts with each one of us. Trust me, these fights that happen on a daily basis will seem so trivial and meaningless when we depart the gates of Chandbagh.

आज़ादी की कीमत

ऐनेश डोरा

हम क्या जाने क्या है परिभाषा आज़ादी की,
हमने कौनसा अंग्रेज़ों के क्रूर हंटर खाए हैं?

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने घोड़ों के खुरों के नीचे अपने सिर दबवाएँ हैं।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने अपने नेत्रों से देखा नज़ारा जलियाँवाला बाग का।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने देखा है दो देशों का बँटवारा।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,

जिन्होंने अपने सपूत खोए थे।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने अपने ही खून से माथे पर तिलक लगाया था।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने अपने बेटे की मौत पर भी जय हिन्द का नारा लगाया था।

आज़ादी की कीमत तो उनसे पूछो,
जिन्होंने पहली बार तिरंगा लहराया था,
जिन्होंने पहली बार तिरंगा लहराया था।

ज़िन्दगी चलती नहीं चलानी पड़ती है

आर्यन गौतम

ज़िन्दगी के रास्ते पर मैं आगे बढ़ता चला।
पर अंदर - ही - अंदर मैं धीरे-धीरे मरता चला
टूट गया हूँ अब, मुझे जीने की कोई आस नहीं
इस ज़ालिम दुनिया पर मुझे बिलकुल भी विश्वास नहीं।

बचपन में तो लगता था, कि रास्ता बड़ा आसान है
पर हमें क्या पता था कि, बड़ों को भी दुनिया को
कामयाबी का देना होता प्रमाण है
क्या दुनिया में आगे बढ़ने का यही इकलौता विधान है।

किसी तरह हमें भेज दिया था देने अपना पहला इम्तिहान
अब हमें भी देना था दुनिया को अपनी कामयाबी का प्रमाण
किसी तरह शुरू किया जब लिखना अपना नाम
दिल की धड़कने तेज़ हो गयी सोचकर कि क्या होगा इसका परिणाम।
हर माँ - बाप पूछता है कि कैसा था स्कूल का पहला दिन
अब मैं बेचारा क्या कहता, कह दिया मिल बने भिन्न - भिन्न
जब स्कूल भेजने के पहले न पूछा कि मन है कि नहीं
तो अब क्यों पूछते हो, चलिए देखते हैं कि आगे कैसे बीतते हैं दिन।

अच्छा समय कैसे निकल गया इसका तो पता ही नहीं लगा
बचपन का रास्ता तो मीलों का था पर कब
चंद क्रदमों का रह गया, पता ही नहीं चला
माँ बाप से पूछने पर भी हमें बस एक तमाचा ही मिला
दूसरों को फूल देने की हिम्मत करने पर भी, हर रास्ते पर काँटा ही मिला

छठी क्लास में आकर हम अपने आप को फन्ने खान समझते थे
पर कब हमारे माँ बाप ने यह बुखार उतार दिया
हमें तो पता ही नहीं लगा
हम पर एक और बोझ डाल दिया
कामयाबी की देनी थी फिर एक मिसाल
पर दून स्कूल के एंट्रेंस एग्जाम ने कर दिया हमें बेहाल

किसी लकड़ी या दाल चीनी का हुआ कमाल
हम किसी तरह पहुंच गए, दून स्कूल बिलकुल फटेहाल
अब देखना था कि ऐसा क्या था इस स्कूल का कमाल
कि हमारे माँ - बाप ने इस स्कूल में घुसने के लिए किया था इतना बवाल

यह स्कूल भी अजूबा था, लोग भी बड़े अलग थे
नाजाने कितने नामी लोग, यहाँ से ही पढ़े थे
सोचता था कि क्या मैं भी इन में शामिल हो पाऊँगा
या बस एक साधारण सा छात्र बन कर रह जाऊँगा

वक्त जैसे आगे बढ़ा, मैं भी आगे बढ़ता गया
ज़िन्दगी के रास्ते पे मैं निडर होकर चलता गया
पर कहते हैं ना कि मुश्किलें आपका पीछा छोड़ नहीं सकती
आपको चैन की साँस लेने कभी दे नहीं सकती

रास्ता धीरे धीरे कठिन होता गया पर मैं थोड़ा शिथिल होता गया
पता ही नहीं चला कब दसवीं कक्षा का डर हमारे दिल पर छाने लगा
हमारे पिता का चिल्लाना हमारे काम आने लगा
और सौ में नब्बे प्रतिशत अंक लाकर हमारा मन फूला ना समाने लगा

ग्यारवी कक्षा में अब आ चुके थे
रास्ता अब इस स्कूल का भी खत्म होने ही वाला था
पर अभी तो हमें अगले साल स्कूल को खुद ही चलाना था
तथा अब सभी अध्यापकों से ही पेंच लड़ा रहे थे

कोई किसी का कप्तान बना, तो कोई प्रीफेक्ट
किसी की टाई का रंग बदला तो किसी की छाती पर बैच सजा
हर कोई धौंस जमाने लगा
अपने आप को एक दूसरे से बड़ा बताने लगा
अरे मूर्खों रास्ते तो सबके एक ही हैं
अगर आज रास्ते पर तुम कीलें गिराओगे
तो किसी दिन घायल होकर
खुद ही पर पछताओगे

आखिर में मैं बस यह कहना चाहता हूँ
ज़िन्दगी के रास्ते पर मैं सदा आगे बढ़ता जाऊँगा
अपनी कलम में स्याही धीरे - धीरे भरता जाऊँगा
इस कविता को पूरी कर
आपको फिर एक बार सुनाने ज़रूर आऊँगा

The Term Gone By

Arjun Prakash and Arav Khanal

The last few Assemblies have been riddled with long-drawn speeches from various captains, and it all boils down to the massive engagement of activities in School this term. Well, as they say, 'no rest for the wicked'. It almost seems as though, recovering from the Pandemic, School woke up from its eternal summer siesta (of last term) to squeeze everything on the roster into these four months. Looking back, we seem to forget that the DSMUN even happened, or that there was a time when we were actually studying. With a slight nip in the air, countless activities, and sadly, not countless hours of sleep, we are all left weary and longing for home. But, once again, an age-old cliché bears the awful truth: holidays always come a week too late — so, dear reader, hold on while we take you on a trip down memory lane.

We trace our way back to the blur that was August, where blue suits, tuxedos, and cheap perfumes were scattered around the refurbished classrooms of the Main Building. While our fellow diplomatic DoscOs put on an incredible show, collecting numerous awards and living up to the 'host' tag, a certain element of the DSMUN still seemed to be missing. Hopefully, the Sc Formers managed to catch up in that department later in the term. Just as DSMUN ended, a roar of cheers could be heard from the newly-made sports complex, marking the commencement of the Inter-House Swimming Competition. School's first taste of jam-packed action occurred as amphibious DoscOs made it onto the football field still wearing swimming trunks, and prepared for what would proceed to end only after Midterms. Meanwhile at night, while some people were arguing over petty matters, each House's team of orators were seen training rigorously for the Inter-House Debating Tournament. This too, lasted late into the term.

DoscOs finally received a well deserved "break" in September, as Trials kicked into action before half of the Inter-House Football matches. A select few also decided to show up extra prepared to the exam halls, ensuring they packed all the essentials: stationery, calculators, and phones. Their efforts were acknowledged in the Rose Bowl, later during the term. While most glued themselves to their textbooks and Toye chairs, another bunch of especially-dedicated people decided to go out on the track and run. It was them who foresaw the term only getting more hectic, leaving no time as Founder's approached. But first! Midterms.

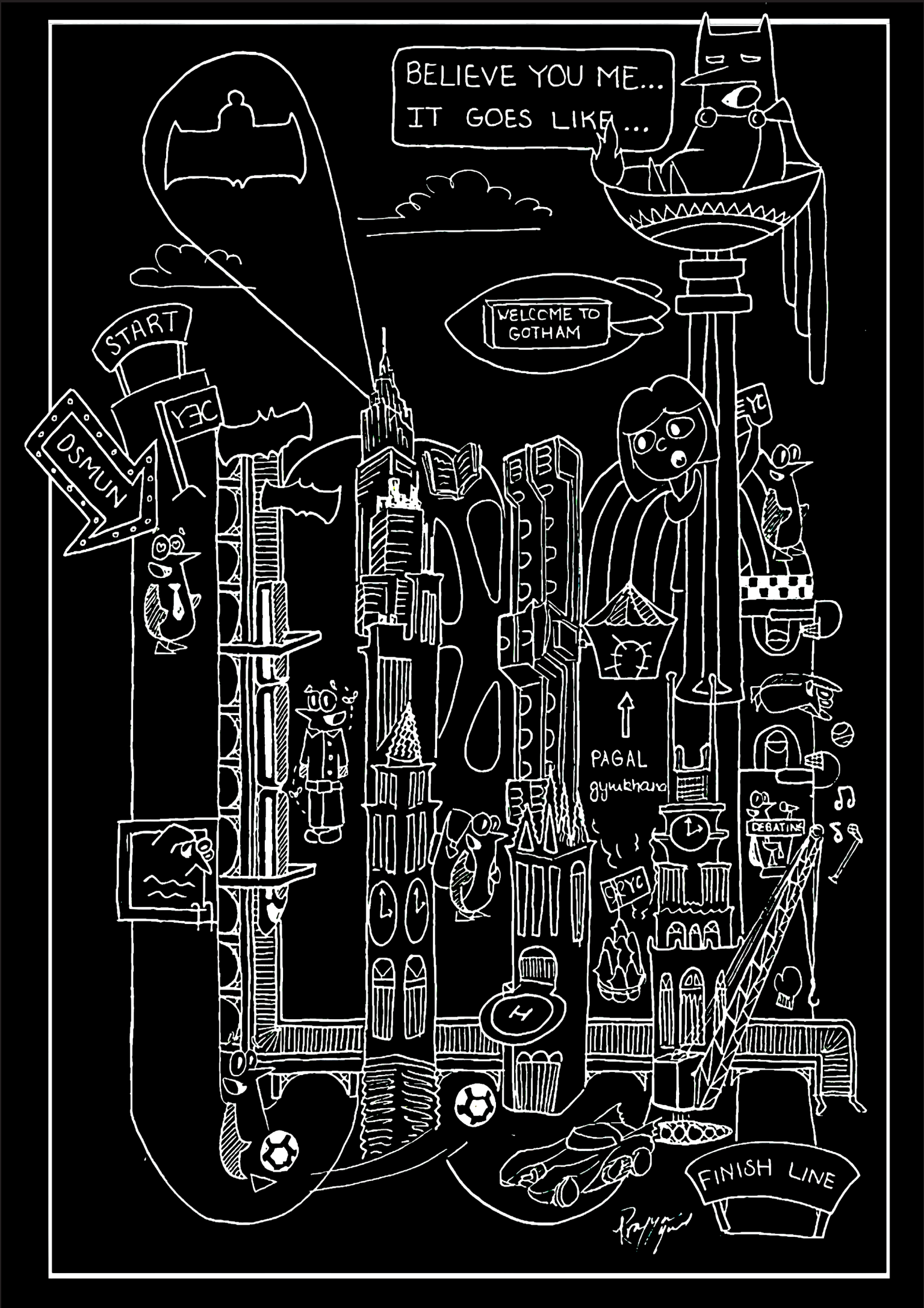
A dreadfully nostalgic CDH announcement by the Headmaster brought news far better than expected. Midterms were on, but with restrictions. This led to situations as dire as 60 A Formers being sent off to one location, for many, a blessing and for others, their

bane. Yet, five days passed in the blink of an eye, and returning to School brought no semblance of normalcy as a full-fledged Founder's Day required full-fledged practices. A Dosco's home would turn into...well, anywhere except their House, as they spent their entire day at rehearsals. Here is where persistence would pay off, but only after it took a toll on the entire Student body. This time of the year also saw much-needed renovations, as fresh paint coated the walls and the pungence of tar wafted through the air. Rumour has it that they imported fresh *bajri* from the banks of the Yamuna. School was more than prepared for its first proper Founders' in over two years.

Founders' festivities kicked off, bringing with it a wave of nostalgia as a sea of old boys flooded the campus from all directions. While the majority of Juniors lined up behind the plethora of food stalls under the watchful eye of their helicopter parents, Senior boys were seen trying to make ends meet. One could be seen watching the Old Boys vs School Team Cricket Match, with *Nirula's* ice-cream in hand, while the guitar of a *Guns 'n' Roses* tune could be heard echoing in the background. Such was the vibrant spirit of Founders.

Sadly, what ensued was the dreaded Post-Founders hangover. Nevertheless, the fabled *Nivea* spikes and perfectly drawn chalk lines signalled the start of the Inter-House Athletics Competition, as each House strived to put their best foot forward, although, quite ironically, most failed to do so in the March Past. As our athletes jostled for gold, the weather turned before we knew it. Amidst this sudden change, the School hosted the Chuckerbutty Memorial Debates, as debators from across the country entered the gates of Chandbagh.

Similar to the pentathletes during the 1500 metre event, the term seemed to be running on its last legs, however, the commencement of two simultaneous Inter-House competitions made things particularly difficult for those trying to recover from their Founders' hangover. At the swish of a basketball net, the deadly gaze of *Tiger*, and an ever-busy Music School, DoscOs were plunged into a series of activities, sparing little time for their academic pursuits. A few 'productivity' themed emails later, the threat of Formative Assessments loomed quietly behind the facade of events that seemed to take precedence over anything else. With the end of 'Formative Week', the curtain finally draws to a close. We are sure that through the ups and downs of this term, all of us will leave having learned something new, be it through our own experiences or other's. Our little piece of advice (as A Formers trying to prepare for their Board examinations): "Plan for the next one, for you'll be back in the blink of an eye."



Sport

FIFA World Cup	November 21
FINA World Swimming Championship	December 13th
Weightlifting World Championship	December 5th
Australian Open	January 16th
Men's Hockey World Cup	January 13th
Winter X Games	January 27th



FINA

TV

Wednesday	November 23rd
Quantum Leap	January 2nd
Star Trek Prodigy	January 3rd
The Rookie: Feds	January 3rd
Wolf pack	January 26th



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Music

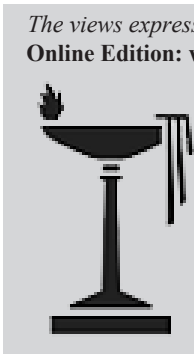
Stormzy	This Is What I Mean
A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie	Me Vs Myself
James Brown	Soul Top
Justin Hurwitz	Babylon
Sarchasm	Conditional Love

Movies

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever	November 11th
Bones and All	November 22nd
Avatar: The Way of the Water	December 16th
Pinocchio	December 9th
Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantamania	February 17th



Pinterest



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