

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

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

March 11, 2023 | Issue No. 2667



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Historical events that took place this week.

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A humorous account of the past week.

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MAZE

Can you find your way out of the maze?

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Until We Meet Again

The Doon School Weekly bids farewell to Mr Pankaj Joshi. On this occasion, his friends, colleagues, and pupils share their thoughts on his time spent here.

Mr Pankaj Joshi and I have been together in School for over 20 years. My first midterm to *Har ki Dun* was with Mr Joshi, my first run outside of the Campus was with him, and so was my first expedition to Jogin III! I have known him as an individual passionate about mountaineering and passionate about growing. As a chairperson for the Kamla Jeevan finals, I first witnessed his command over the Hindi language and it is commendable. An organised person and teacher, he has been a role model for several of us too. This all-around personality of his is very well suited to the requirements of a boarding school. He worked energetically with Students and Masters during all activities of School life. He has been present everywhere, be it the classroom, the sports fields, or the mountains of Uttarakhand. He is leaving the school but leaving behind experiences he shared, lessons he taught, and memories he made with us and many batches of DoscOs.

-MMR



My first interaction with PKJ Sir was as a shy and nervous D Former on my first mid-terms, where he asked me if I was related to Angad Shergill. After I told him I was, he went on to ask me about him and told me a few tales about my brother's days in School. Fast forward four years later, and I get the news that PKJ Sir will take over as housemaster of Tata House. Knowing him from my time in Martyn House, I couldn't have been more delighted. PKJ Sir embraced his position from the very first day and set out the goal of turning 80 young boys into gentlemen, and most importantly the best versions of themselves. Even though his tenure was a short one, I can surely say that he has been successful in achieving his goals. As a prefectorial body and as also a House, we try our best to reflect what he taught us during his time here. The values he engraved into the House will stay with us for perhaps, the rest of our lives. On behalf of the entire House, I thank him for everything he has done for me and the House.

- Shehzaad Shergill

A true illustration of the saying that goes, a true teacher tells you where to look but not what to see. PKJ Sir has been nothing short of a mentor, a guide, a beacon and my favourite teacher for the past few years and I strongly believe that it will continue to be so. I met PKJ sir during my entrance exam and he came across as approachable and went out of his way to make us comfortable despite watching the clock. With such warm and considerate tutors, I realized that this would be an ideal environment to grow up in and be a part of. It was a blessing when I got him as a tutor for one of the subjects that I always struggled with, but this time I started developing an interest due to his patience, considerate nature and kindness.

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CREME DE LA CREME

School Colours have been awarded to Gurmehar Bedi, Kapil Thapli, Veer Nigam, Paras Agarwal, Aryan Prakash, Raghav Mundara and Yuvraj Sarda.

The General Proficiency Cup for Seniors has been awarded to Gurmehar Bedi.

The Gentleman Sportsman of the Year has been awarded to Kapil Thapli.

Congratulations!

DARK KNIGHT

The Scholars' Blazer has been awarded to Katyayan Kanodia.

Well done!

LISTENER'S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening to this week:

- Samarth Pundeer: *In the Shadows* by The Rasmus
- Karan Agarwal: *Cardiac Arrest* by Luke Gawne
- Aarav Prakash: *Crimson Lake* by Joe Henderson
- Loechin Phangcho: *I'm Awake* by Intervals
- MRD: *Ra Ra Rakkamma* by Nakash Aziz
- SMA: *Satyam Shivam Sundaram* by Lata Mangeshkar

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Only those who risk going too far can
possibly find out how far they can go.

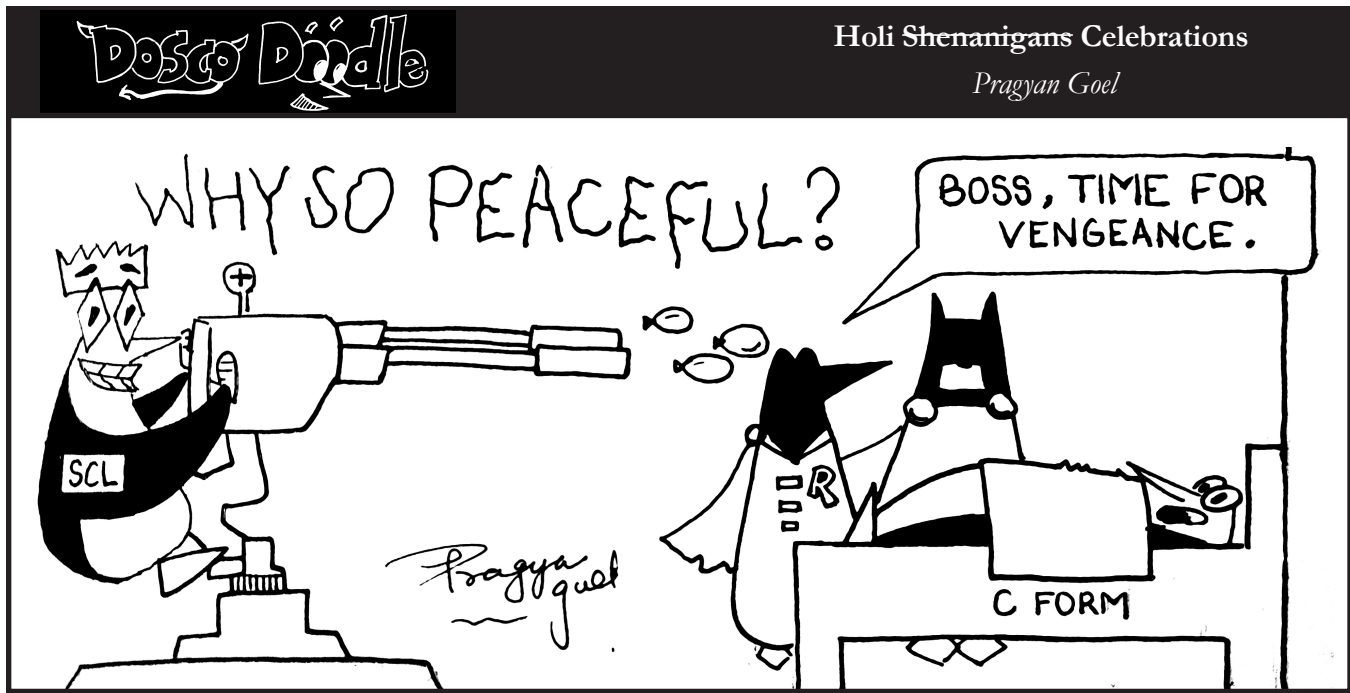
—
T.S. Eliot

This Week in History

- 161 C.E.: Marcus Aurelius became emperor of Rome.
- 1924 C.E.: The Egyptian government opened the mummy case of King Tutankhamen, ruler of Egypt in the 14th century.
- 1945 C.E.: The U.S. Air Force bombed Tokyo with napalm, causing fires that destroyed a quarter of the city.
- 1957 C.E.: Ghana became an independent nation, led by Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah.
- 1964 C.E.: American boxer Cassius Clay took the name Muhammad Ali, which was given to him by his spiritual mentor, Elijah Muhammad.
- 1971 C.E.: American boxer Joe Frazier retained his world heavyweight championship by winning a 15-round decision over former champion Muhammad Ali.
- 2020 C.E.: The World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 outbreak was a pandemic.
- 1990 C.E.: Lithuania became the first Soviet republic to declare its independence from the U.S.S.R.

Around the World in 80 Words

Anti-Netanyahu protests blocked several roads in Israel. Thousands of Turkish women defied a protest ban and rallied in Istanbul for a “feminist night march”. Israeli forces killed three Palestinians in a shootout in Jenin. The BJP won the Gujarat state elections. A bomb killed three people in Afghanistan, including a provincial governor. Google unveiled a drone network, formally expressing interest in the industry. Bayern Munich beat PSG 2-0, knocking them out of the Champions League. Manchester United beat Liverpool 7-0.



(Continued from Page 1)

When PKJ sir took over as the Housemaster of Tata House, we were elated as we knew that the learning and guidance from him would be immeasurable. He stood as a living example with the way you conducted yourself and the choices you made, and taught us the right values to live by and emulate. I personally owe PKJ Sir a great part of any accomplishment that I have made, both curricular and extra-curricular. Above all, personally, he has been a role model for me.

-Dhruv Murugappan

To begin with, this is not a goodbye, but rather a farewell. Pankaj has served this institution for 24 years, a long innings indeed! He has been a part of all the facets of the School and has left his mark on all the roles and responsibilities which he has unquestionably handled with perfection and sincerity over the years. An upright person with clear thoughts and understanding, his ability to connect with the boys and staff was nothing short of amazing. Moreover, his immaculate dressing sense for the occasion could never go unnoticed. He was not only an excellent mentor and influential guide to the boys but also to colleagues and staff who joined the School and were looking for direction. It was so great working with him. He has been a fantastic friend. Wishing him all the success in his new venture!

- Mr Sanjay Makhija

To write a farewell piece for a person of the stature of Mr. Pankaj Joshi who has been a mentor, master and a friend to me is truly a difficult one. He has been my Head of Department, IB Coordinator and as he leaves school, is my Housemaster. A public school Master who has always kept the traditions of the boarding school in its deliverables. In his short stint as Housemaster, I observed his alertness, experience, eye for detail and overall, love for children which took me almost a decade to understand in the same role. This is where lies his aura. There is so much to learn from his overall presence and his entire approach to the boarding school environment. His knowledge of so many domains has always been his 'connect' point and his true asset. I have always valued his upright attitude as here was a master with whom I could get along and debate on all matters. He always exercised patience to the fullest and spoke his point clearly. Truly he is one master who wore multiple hats during in his tenure. Joshi sir, this has been your home and will always remain one. I wish you all the best in all your endeavours.

-ANC

The first time I met PKJ Sir will always be special for me. It was all the way back in 2017, when Sir was invigilating the Doon entrance test in Chennai, and I happened to be sitting right at the first desk, sweating anxiously as I frantically raced through paper after paper as the hours passed by like minutes. What I did not know that day was, that I would be one of the few lucky boys from all across the country to have Sir and his infectious smile as a part of the greatest chapter of my adolescent life here at Doon.

PKJ Sir has played an integral role in my life at School. I would only be half the Dosco I am today if it weren't for Sir. From being my Martyn house tutor, where you would treat us to steaming hot momos and bun-tikkis, to 'nabbing' me using certain obscene Hindi phrases that my oblivious and shy D-form self, coming all the way from Chennai, had no clue what they meant, thank you for always motivating me, for always mentoring me, and for always striving to make me a better version of myself. I will never forget all the memories and conversations we have shared over the years. There are not enough words to do justice to the impact you have had on my life as a Dosco. Thank you for everything, PKJ Sir, and all the very best for your future endeavours.

-Tarun Doss

Having been next door neighbours for over a decade, Pankaj and I developed the close ties that members of a family enjoy. Our sons have grown up together, going to prep school together and playing together. I have come to know the wit, the sense of humour and the deep engagement with literature and language that Pankaj possesses. Although I will miss him and everyone else in his family, I am happy for him and I am sure he will be a great ambassador of Doon, taking the school that he is going to head, to great heights. I wish him all the very best.

-PDT

The Week Gone By

Abhay Jain

This week saw the Dosco Community go through a mix of emotions and celebrations as the countdown to the final exams of the year finally began, allowing School to take a step back from its usual busyness in order to allow students to finally focus on studying. These exams, slated to be the first finals post-COVID, will be a test of the hard work and dedication that Doscos have shown throughout the year and will also determine the future prospects for the senior body of School. I sincerely wish all Doscos the very best for their exams and hope they do well.

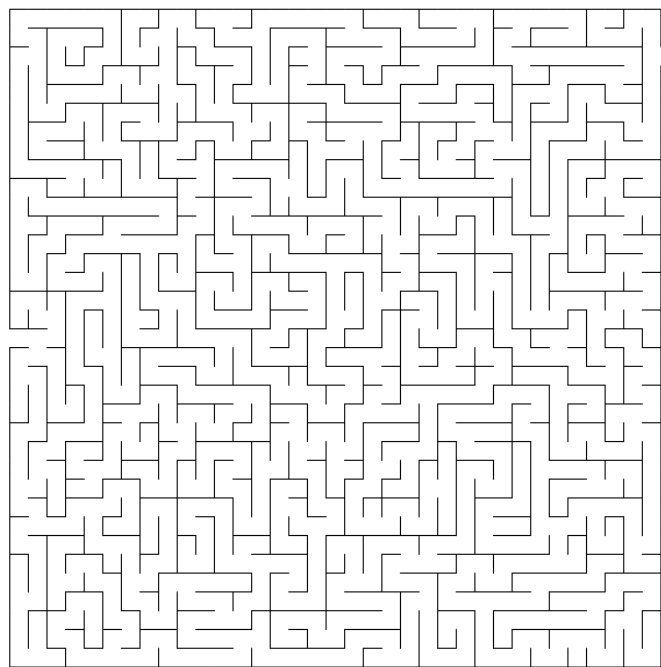
Aside from the obvious exam pressure, this week was also stressful for the senior members of the School community as the School’s pastoral authorities decided to take a closer look at the attendance sheet of senior boys. However, thankfully enough, the horror stories of missed outings and punishments being handed out have seemed to have kept Doscos in check for the last few days of this academic year. Whether this ceasefire is to last however, only time will tell.

On another note, this week also marked the end of an era for the Sc-Leavers, who had their last Assembly and farewell ceremony last Saturday. After a plethora of heartfelt speeches and award giving by the Headmaster, the entire campus reverberated with the haunting melody of the *Auld Lang Syne* as the School bid the Sc-Leavers a final, tearful farewell.


The week also witnessed some festive cheer as Holi was celebrated this Wednesday. Holi was, as always, a fun-filled festival, featuring water balloons, permanent colours, and *pitchkaari*’s sustainable colours, *chaats* and sweet treats. The Holi enthusiasm seemed to propel some Doscos to great heights, and depths of the pool, as they chose to seek respite from the heat by performing a rejuvenating activity, much to the chagrin of the security professionals of the School.

The week gone by was indeed a memorable one for all Doscos, as we experienced some highs and lows; joys and sorrows; endings and beginnings. Dear reader, I hope you cherish these moments forever in your hearts, for one day, you too will walk out of the gates of Chandbagh one last time.

Maze



The Weekly wishes
the entire School
Community a very
Happy International
Women’s Day!



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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