

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
August 9, 2025 | Issue No. 2746



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Historical events that took place this week.

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THE OBSERVER'S REPORT

A summary of the previous meeting of the School Council.

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THE WEEK GONE BY

Incessant rain, news from the YEC and the run-up to DSMUN.

Page 4

The Ninth

Creative

Sumer Gill

The Inferno by Dante Alighieri describes the writer's fictionalised journey through Hell, guided by the ancient Roman poet Virgil. In the poem, Hell is depicted as nine concentric circles of torment located within the Earth.

Seven was survivable. Long, monotonous, exhausting. But it had shape, edges. You could map it, walk through it, reach its end and live to see another day. Eight didn't arrive — it bled onto the page. No ripple, no warning. One more hour folded in like a second spine. Everything began to echo.

And then? Nine.

Not much more. Not much longer, just... deeper. The spiral didn't tighten, it just collapsed into itself.

I step into the first circle with somnolence and denial etched into my mind. I move like something yanked forward, not something that walks. The room hums softly. Nothing hurts. I think my name is called, and I reply, mumbling. The chalk scratches the board. I write a line, but I don't know what it says. I write another. The light from the window flickers like it's scared to enter. The room should not exist. But it does. And within it, us.

The second circle hums louder as my body starts to realise itself. The neck, the gut, the weight behind the eyes. Time becomes a measurement of pain in the abdomen. Everything begins to sway. The chair, the fan. Me. I start counting the things around me.

The noise outside, the poignant smell of burnt toast, and the lonely titter of a bird that has lost its way. And then, something truly extraordinary occurs.

Voices return, movement quickens. Someone calls it a hiatus, but I don't think the word fits anymore. It's not freedom. It's just another sound in an empty hall. People laugh, but it's not laughter I can trust. I say something, anything, leaving my mouth strangely shaped. The food tastes like nothing, which is frankly better than it tasting like something. The bell rings, and everyone synonymously moves the same way.

The third circle lands heavily. Pages reappear. Names, diagrams, and a list of instructions that feel too fast. I follow. Not because I understand, but because I do not want to be seen not following. The pen is faster than the thought and the thought, slower than the voice. The page fills. I keep writing, and stop reading what I write. The pages fill themselves. Those around me seem to have been sucked in too. The air is light but the uneasiness is steady.

The fourth and fifth are where time loses its tentacles. It stretches in some places, collapses in others. You begin to forget what came before. A board, a word, a set of bullet points. A revolution, I think. Or a formula? Everyone is quiet: they are trying, struggling. No one is thinking. I look around and see

myself mirrored in every other seat. Each seat urging for solace in the lightness of the white cotton. An unbegotten dream too close to imagine and too far to reach.

Recess again. But not really. People move like the air is thicker. The floor feels slanted. A boy spills something. No one laughs. I eat too fast and don't remember the taste. I say something and regret the sentence before it ends.

The sixth always begins warm, comforting. The diagrams promise a logic that feels sympathetic, systematic and structured. Arrows point toward understanding. But the understanding is obscured. The dots don't connect. Something is said, but I look up and forget. I nod anyway. I always nod now. Between nods, the mind is heavy and the tongue laden with the after-taste of something I can't quite pinpoint.

The seventh is cold. It arrives fully formed, with symbols instead of words. The whiteboard looks the same to me, no matter what's written on it. I remember a time when I found solace in this. That thought feels like a story someone told me.

Something alien. Someone I used to know: a boy who cared, a boy who solved. I wonder what happened to him... He stands, he sits, he moves from one sorrow to the next without as much as a second glance.

(Continued on Page 3)

This Week in History

1905 CE: The Swadeshi Movement against British rule is formally launched in Calcutta, India.

1914 CE: Great Britain formally enters World War 1, following the German invasion of Belgium.

1944 CE: Anne Frank’s family is found by the Gestapo in Amsterdam and deported to a concentration camp.

1945 CE: The United States drops an atomic bomb over the Japanese city of Hiroshima, killing over seventy thousand people.

2012 CE: NASA probe vehicle Curiosity lands on Mars, on a mission to transmit images of the planet’s surface.

READER’S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been reading this week:

- RDG:** *Heart Lamp* by Banu Mushtaq
- AST:** *Moral Ambition* by Rutger Bregman
- Raajdeep Paliwal:** *The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari* by Robin Sharma
- Uday Sardana:** *Can’t Hurt Me* by David Goggins

LISTENER’S CHECKLIST

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

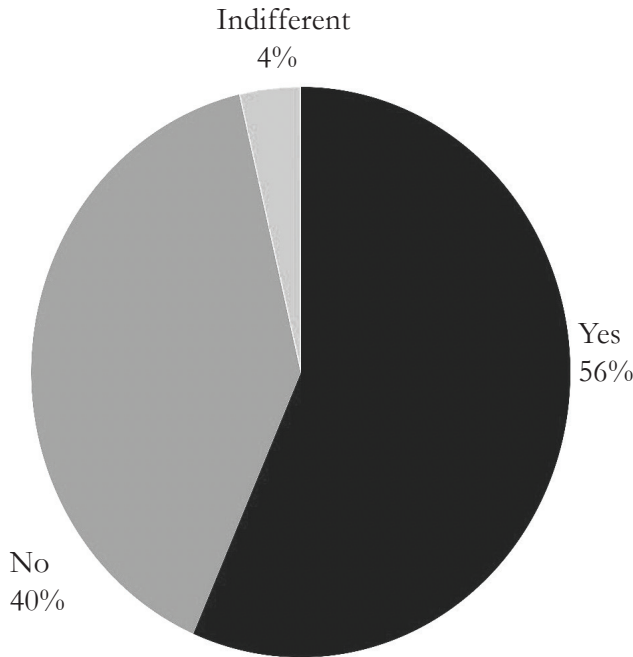
- Ayaan Raghuvanshi:** *The Less I Know The Better* by Tame Impala
- Omar Malik:** *Lose My Mind* by Don Toliver
- Rehhan Chadha:** *One More Try* by George Michael
- Aryan Pandhi:** *Light My Fire* by The Doors

“

In the midst of chaos, there is also opportunity.

—
Sun Tzu

Do you think the DS 90 should be a milestone celebration?



(191 members of the School Community were polled).

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

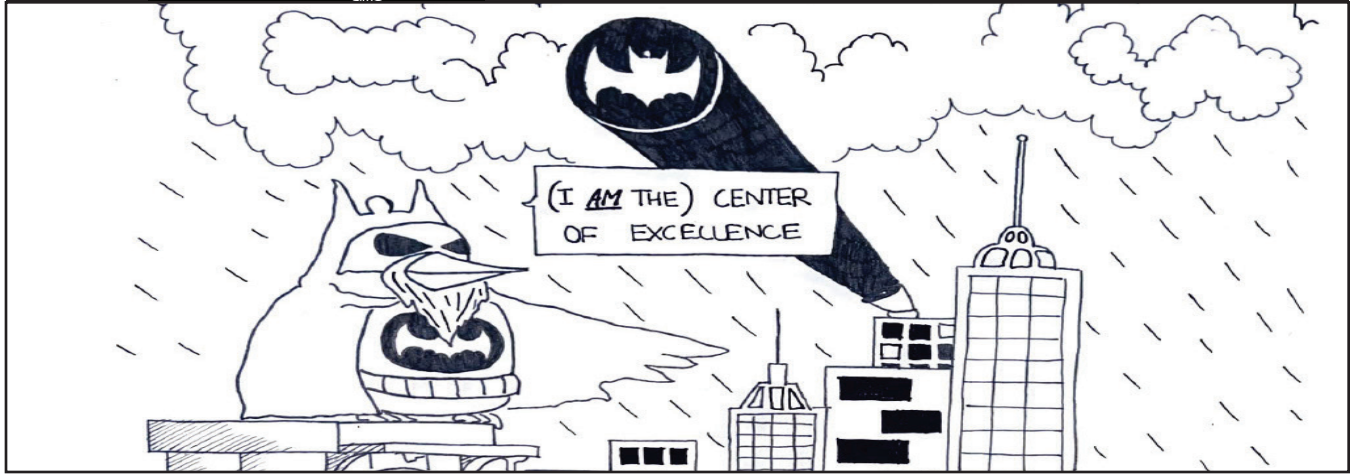
- Never become a psychologist.*
- HTA,** paradoxical.
- Ma’am, I also know a pickup line.*
- Ayan Dhandhanian,** rom-com expert.

Around the World in 80 Words

Donald Trump hits India with a high 50% tariff for Russian crude oil buys. Stanford University fired over three hundred sixty employees, citing budget constraints. Tesla launched its premier charging facility in India. Many are feared to be trapped after a cloudburst triggered flash floods and heavy rains in Uttarakhand. The former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Shibu Soren passed away. India secured a thrilling victory against England by six runs at the Oval, ending the test series with a draw.

Dosco Doodle

At the Center
Reyansh Agarwal



The Week Gone By

Krishiv Jaiswal

In what might be the most predictable plot twist since the selective enforcement of the infamous 75% rule across sports teams, the football schedule was tweaked for the millionth time, much to the dismay of the Gentlemen in spikes. But, as is tradition in August (and sometimes even in class), the rain had our backs. The Main Field saw more puddles than passes, and the only real winners were the 50+ students nursing knee injuries. At this rate, one more downpour and we may as well rechristen it the “CDH Poolside ‘Turf,” though the name is still under *review*.

Meanwhile, the *Umbrella Academy* hit record highs as thick grey clouds

made frequent and heavy visits across campus. Navigating the mossy bricks and slippery tiles became a full-body workout.

On a more spirited note, the Young Entrepreneurs’ Conference kicked off amid a Delegate Dance crisis, which ended faster than the DSMUN “stints” we’re bracing ourselves for. Despite the Chairs and Stage Committee members pulling a vanishing act during committee, the sheer enthusiasm and effort from the Secretariat made YEC a resounding success.

As for the best committee, dear Editor, perhaps it wasn’t in the committee rooms at all. Maybe the real best committee was the friendships we strengthened on the dance floor. Stay tuned though, Season Two drops on August 12, this time an away game at the Dalanwala Camp Nou; the Prefects seem to be buzzing. The rest of us? Not so much.

Speaking of buzzing, Housemasters have already started sending mails with an actually scary list of absences, to which I say “Alright, alright, alright.” It seems like attendance has become a daily gamble — between your YC reminding you to change it, your Tutor reminding you it wasn’t changed, and Veracross reminding you that inner peace is overrated.

The DSMUN Secretariat is operating at full throttle, and sleep is already being debated as either a basic human right or a redundant suggestion. Meanwhile, Juniors are in fierce competition for the coveted title of chitboy, which has been interesting to watch.

That’s it from me this week, assuming I survive the next. If not, feel free to submit this as my CAS reflection. And remember, as long as the dice keeps rolling, your six will come. Someday. Soon.

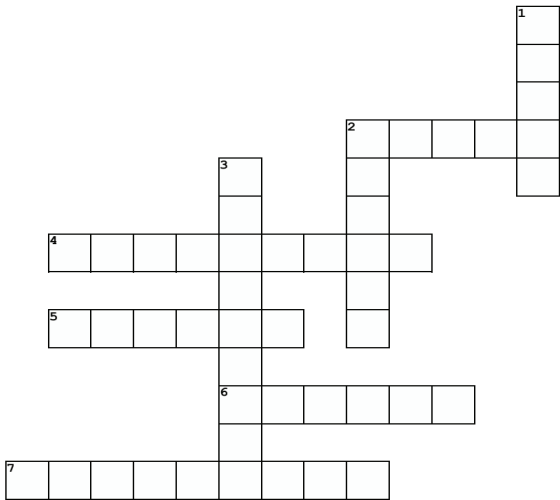
Crossword | Films with sequels

Across:

- 2. An animated series following a green ogre and his donkey friend.
- 4. Critically acclaimed to be one of the best movies of all time, this movie follows the world of Don Vito Corleone.
- 5. This dystopian thriller saw Keanu Reeves play ‘Neo.’
- 6. This famous movie stars Tom Cruise as a US Air Force fighter pilot.
- 7. This superhero movie series saw Tom Holland, Tobey Maguire, and Andrew Garfield playing the lead role.

Down:

- 1. This sports series featured Sylvester Stallone playing the title role.
- 2. A horror series following protagonist Sydney Prescott.
- 3. A historical drama set in Ancient Rome, with its sequel released in 2024.



Across:	
1. Rocky	2. Shrek
3. Gladiator	4. Godfather
5. Matrix	6. Top Gun
7. Spiderman	

Key:

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