The Doon School

WEEKLY

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

November 8, 2025 | Issue No. 2759

#### **DOONSPEAK**

The School Community comments on where the *Weekly* falls short.

Page 4

#### THE SIRENS KEEP SILENT

A creative piece written without any usage of the letter "a."

Page 6

## —— Edítoríal —— From a *Weekl*y Kid

Rehhan Chadha

Common quotes from a Weekly kid:

"Guys, do you have any page plan ideas? No, we can't publish that."

"So, what new songs have you been listening to these days?"

"What, he already sent proofreading?"
"No, we'll watch F1 some other night, I have Weekly work."

### The Weekly and Me

When I began thinking about this piece, I told myself, time and time again, that I, under no circumstances, would write a generic piece that fails to do justice to my experience on this Board. So, in that spirit, I decided to begin with an array of quotes that I'd stumbled upon myself saying, increasingly often, these past two-something years. Before I go on with my ramblings about the stature and nature of the Weekly, I find it fit to elaborate on my personal experiences and anecdotes with it, helping place my take on its stature into better context.

Much time has been spent in writing and re-writing this particular section (the Board confirms this!), but perhaps only because it's most challenging to speak about your own personal experiences, and lay them out as truth, to the court of public opinion. It's a terribly frightening phenomenon to speak about something so dear to you publicly, almost to the point that people consider it queer that you'd love a Publication to such a silly, almost childish extent. At least, that's

what I used to feel, up until a guttural feeling arose. A feeling that I was a part of something much larger than myself.

Many things have changed since the last time I wrote. The storm that has left most of our Batch still finding its feet, has turned its tide towards a personal safe space, the *Weekly*, and left in its wake a hopeful new Board, with many aspirations, and a perplexed Editor — a healthy amalgam of excited, frightened, but nevertheless deeply positive about how his ship will cope with choppy waters.

I joined the Board of the Weekly at the precipice of my B Form, much after the rest of my Senior Board. Fears regarding not being able to adjust to new workloads and piling deadlines quickly began to gnaw at me, and I worried regarding ever being able to truly adjust. Somehow, all of these apprehensions quickly sublimated into things I cherished — page plan meetings every Saturday, sailing through the week slowly adding things to the Issue (an article here, a section there), and, finally, sending the Issue for print on a Friday, getting to breathe a short-lived sigh of relief, before it all starts back up again. It was, perhaps, this inherent continuity that provided latent structure to my School life, living not week to week, rather Weekly to Weekly.

It's not for everybody. This was not, in any sense, a simple or straightforward routine to stick to. At the risk of sounding pompous, such schedule a required dedication and work ethic that I did not know I had, me the Weekly played an imperative role in embellishing this in me. Indeed, looking back, I do have some regrets which I would be remiss if not to mention. Sometimes, more often than not, it became challenging to discern personal life from the Weekly life, but I wouldn't change a thing.

In fact, that brings me to the use of the oft-quoted term, 'Weekly kid.' Much of the Readership is bound to have heard it sometime. When external to the Board, I considered it a conceited tagline for the 'erudite capital' (quoting a dear Master) of School, and perhaps, to some extent, this belief has not changed. However, I feel that the more time one spends on the Board, the more they lose an estimate of the standing associated with the tagline of Weekly kid. Humbling is the thought that the C Former, cowering outside the Weekly Room, waiting to give his interview, understands the significance of this term better than any of us. I have been him. Also humbling is that I get to work for an institution under whose aegis, stalwarts such as Karan Thapar and Amitav Ghosh have found themselves.

Joining the *Weekly* provided me with a steady sense of identity. I was able to grow into my

(Continued on Page 3)

### LISTENERS'S CHECKLIST

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

**Adhyan Sharma**: *Firework* by Katy Perry

**Trish Badhwar**: *Call Me Maybe* by Carly Rae Jepsen

**Parikshit Rao**: *Send it Back* by DON WEST

**Jaydhen Bhutia**: *Ivy* by Frank Ocean

### **READER'S CHECKLIST**

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

**Abheer Bachher**: *Shikari Shambu* by Rajani Thindiath

**Nishant Hazarika**: *Suppandi* by Anant Pai

### **UNQUOTABLE QUOTES**

What is the unit of KG? **VGN**, deliberating the 5th dimension.

I am not shut up.

Laksh Baheti, sure of his identity.

Your hate makes me stoppable. **Jahaann Goel**, fuel to a fire.

### "

You will never be happy if you continue to search for what happiness consists of. You will never live if you are looking for the meaning of life.

**Albert Camus** 

### This Week in History

**1605 CE**: The Gunpowder Plot is uncovered in England, when a group of Roman Catholic conspirators attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament and assassinate King James I.

**1860 CE**: Abraham Lincoln is elected President of the United States, leading to the secession of Southern states and the onset of the American Civil War.

**1952 CE**: The United States conducts its first successful test of a thermonuclear (hydrogen) bomb on Enewetak Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

**1957 CE**: The Soviet Union launches the satellite Sputnik 2, carrying the dog Laika, the first living creature to orbit the Earth.

**1995 CE**: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated in Tel Aviv during a peace rally.

### THE RIDDLE?

Born of quiet quarry, we keep watch where a bowl blooms without water. We do not clap at victory, yet every cheer turns towards us.

Monsoon inks our shoulders green, winter sets our faces pale.

We outlast Prefects, oaths, and matches, counting Batches by lichen and not bells.

Name the keepers who face the stone petals and never move.

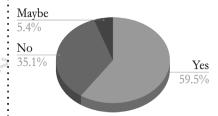
Think you've cracked it? Send your answer to weekly@ doonschool.com, and the first correct solver will be honoured in our next Issue. The Weekly hopes you enjoy this addition.

# Around the World in 80 Words

Zhoran Mamdani made history by becoming the youngest and first muslim mayor of New York, quoting Jawaharlal Nehru in his victory speech. Rahul vote manipulation Gandhi's claim was struck down by the Election Commission, which explained that no such claims were filed. '67' was voted Word of the Year by Dictionary.com. Trump described the meeting with China's Xi Jinping as a "G2 Meeting." India beat South Africa by 52 runs to win their first-ever ICC Women's ODI World Cup.

### Do you support the idea of a 'performative male?'

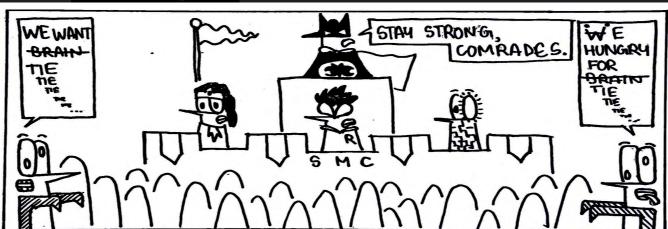
For the uninitiated, 'performative male' is an increasingly popular neologism for describing men who adopt progressive and often feminist visual codes without subscribing to or caring for the underlying progressive values. This is seen in activities of carrying Labubu dolls and drinking matcha. This is a prelude to an article in an upcoming Issue.



324 Members of the School Community were polled

Desor Dúch

Eat or Be Eaten Reyansh Agarwal



(Continued from Page 1)

own within School, using the Publication as an instrument. As Hrishikesh mentioned in his Editorial, we often seem to regard such an instrument, and the venerable platform it equips us with, for plain granted. Having your piece printed within such a publication buttresses your voice, one that may not have been able to cause much change on its own, with the quiet and appreciable strength of decades of writers, Correspondents, and Editorial Boards hoping to inspire meaningful change themselves. This is a prospect that deserves to be respected.

### **Looking Forward**

The current Senior Board encapsulates an intense passion for this Publication — for what it represents, upholds, and safeguards. For a while now, we have been discussing methods and

strategies in order to spread such a passion among our Readership, too. Because, for us, pure passion — which later translates to repeated proofreadings, late nights, and long meetings — is what has thrusted us thus far. We hope that sharing such a passion will have a palpable effect on the Readership as well.

We wish you to firstly take due ownership of our Publication. It is meaningless and vain for the Weekly to claim to be the true echo of Chandbagh, if Chandbagh itself does not look towards it as a trustworthy voice. Taking off from Hrishikesh, a problem which has affected us most gravely in the past year has been the lack of meaningful and sincere feedback from the Community. Peering across the pages of our Publication on a Saturday morning (hopefully), if you notice something which

you feel could have been carried better — an article that seems too generic, a cartoon that isn't truly inspired, or a *Week Gone By* that barely touches upon what your week actually looked like — call it out. Approach any of us, and it is our solemn vow that we will strive to resolve it. Remember, do this not to strengthen your criticisms, but to seize collective ownership of a pillar of School that belongs to you as much as to us.

In a more matter-of-factly sense, what you can be looking forward to in the upcoming year are bolder Op-Ed style pieces, a regular updation of new sections on Page Two, articles that strive to be more pertinent and cutting in terms of their content matter, and novel and exciting designs.

On that note, I hope that we, as a Board, are able to do justice to what we've been trusted with.

## The Sirens Keep Silent

Shiven Singh

This is a

lipogram. It

is a creative

| written without |

the usage of

the letter 'A.'

I woke up to the sound of sirens, even though none worked then. Their neglected hum rolled through the husk of the city — cold endless echo, beyond noise. My room reeked of soot. The floor — covered with grime, broken wires, littered with crushed stone. Beside me were books, two keys, one red extinguisher. None of them were mine, yet I felt like I knew them. They

felt chosen for me, tokens of some lost memory.

I know why I fled. The council fell, the old order died; the ones who sought freedom were now gone. I used to write for them; my words now purged from every corner of the Internet. Only the cult's voice echoes there now. The few who survived live in silence. Every light is suspicion, every whisper could end you.

I know I must move, yet my legs feel like stone. I look outside, through the broken window, upon the skeleton of towers. Fires blink in the fog, some deep red, some white. The ground below shivers with the wind. The noise of the city is no longer life. It is the howl of ruin.

I sense they still hunt me. The cult's drones hover over the old districts, their lenses forever open. I see their reflection on the wet concrete. I know they look for signs of those who remember the truth. My chest tightens, but my mind resists. I will not yield.

I pocket the two keys, holding the extinguisher close. One key glimmers; one is rusted. I do not know which

door they fit into. Yet, I trust they will guide me. I step over debris, through the smoke. The street holds silence, broken only by soft whirs from the drone grids. I keep low, eyes on the flicker of neon through the fog. Every corner hides risk. Yet, within this broken city, I feel the pull of rebirth. No rule, no creed, no voice should own our will.

I will give it to them. My exile never signified the end. It is the first seed. The cult stole my home, not my hope. I will return, not to beg, but to recover the truth. The world forgot its soul. I will remember it. Even if the cost is bloodshed, or the end of me, the fire will rise once more.

## What is the Weekly Lacking?

When I sit down at the lunch table on a Saturday to open the *Weekly*, I see everyone around me skipping the first page to look at the *Unquotable Quotes* and checking if their names got in. Sometimes I feel like I'm the only one who reads the first page... If you think about the quality of the front pages, it has steadily decreased, from scholarly essays about reliance on social media to essays about chicken curry. I don't think that the goal of the *Weekly* was to simply print *Unquotable Quotes* or to talk about chicken curry, but rather to be the scholarly flagship publication of the School. Finally, to the Readers, the *Weekly* can teach lessons that most people can't.

-Emile Lulla

I feel that the *Weekly's* growth has been limited by restrictions on content, which have made it tougher for the School Community to fully express its views. As a result, some articles that do address certain issues tend to do so in ways that are quite subtle and not always easy for Students to fully understand, with many skipping past what seems to be a boring article. However, this has improved to an extent with certain restrictions being lifted.

-Aprameya Gulati

We all talk amongst ourselves about the constructive criticism for the *Weekly*. Everyone is tired of those long and boring articles which take up all the space in each Issue. Instead, it should try to include shorter and more interesting articles that the reader would actually want to read. It's quite evident how the *Weekly* is losing its touch. I still remember when *Dosco Doodles* actually used to be interesting comic strips instead of these one-panel *Dosco Doodles* referencing the Headmaster. I think that if the *Weekly* addresses all these shortcomings, it's going to become the best publication by a long shot.

-Arsh Jain

When the Weekly becomes an obligation rather than a passion, quality of its content degrades, the Readership suffers, and the Weekly starts to justify its flaws with excuses. I don't know the reason, but the *Weekly* Board members, though students on campus, still manage to wrongly assess the kind of content we Doscos love to read. We seldom find content we actually want to read, to the point where *Dosco Doodles* become the highlight of the *Weekly*.

-Tanay Lal

I feel like the monotone, black-and-white design of the *Weekly* is a bit too uninviting, with the small print only making matters worse. Personally, I also think that I'd like it if the *Around the World in 80 Words* section was longer, and if the articles were a bit lighter in nature and not as deep as they currently are. The *Weekly* is also too censored in my opinion — I feel like we need more stronger opinions to be published, and it wouldn't hurt to have more strongly opinionated poll questions either.

-Udai Singh

Honestly, I feel like the *Weekly* is becoming a publication less **for** the School. There just a lot of monotonous content with 2-3 funny parts that get it viewers. Sure, the articles may be good and deep, not to mention well-written, but, they aren't really about what's really happening in School. If you look in the Archives at past editions of the *Weekly*, entire Inter-House scoresheets and multiple page reports were published. Inadvertently, a lot of people's names were mentioned, thus immortalising them. Now, this is done online by other publications like the *Grandslam*. I think more articles by Masters are also a must because they're also a major part of our Community. Varying Masters' opinions and thoughts would be beneficial for the *Weekly*'s growth.

-Nishant Hazarika

## "I Sketch Your World..."

Reyansh Agarwal, as a cartoonist and designer, reflects on the position he finds himself in.

Before reading this article, take a moment to turn to page six. There, you will see the doodles I stayed up late at night to draw, all for your entertainment and the approval of the Board. Now, turn to page two. Like every other *Weekly* Issue, my doodle awaits your and the Board's judgement.

Every day, I hope to live a completely ordinary life, one in which I can do what I enjoy and live as I wish. Reality, however, is different. I work tirelessly, day and night, creating doodles for several activities and publications, with my only consolation being recognition as a "Doodler."

Having a niche skill or interest might seem like an exciting adventure to many; it is, after all, unique and valued for the enjoyment of the School Community. And to some extent, it truly is exciting, as one gets to take part in important activities and conferences. However, the privilege of being skilled in a specific area carries a darker side that not everyone sees.

Every Wednesday night, almost like a ritual, a senior member of a society approaches me with a new doodle idea and a deadline, all without asking whether I am willing to recreate it or not. Many co-curricular activities in School, such as Secretariats or Publications, are seen as exclusive and prestigious. The desire to join them is strong, and their appeal within the Community is high. These activities, however, rely on a limited pool of people with highly sought-after skills like designing or photography. As a result, this small group of individuals is stretched to their limits, far beyond comfort.

When I first joined School, I was fascinated by the short comic strip on the second page of the *Weekly* and dreamt of becoming a cartoonist someday. I was never an artist, but I spent my free time at the end of Toye, in Foot House, learning to draw the iconic Penguins until I finally got the hang of it. Thereafter, my first doodle was published at the start of my B Form and my doodling journey began with anticipation and excitement for what lay ahead.

Now, as a cartoonist, I speak from experience. During Founders' preparation days, I was asked by numerous Publications and exhibitions to create doodles for them. Being in my A Form, my priorities are my academics and the activity I was most directly involved in. If more students in School could cartoon, a simple 'no' would have sufficed as a polite rejection. Instead, I was

pursued by these individuals until the final day, far longer than I had anticipated, until I eventually found myself at their venues, doodling to fill their whiteboards and pages despite my reluctance.

I have spoken to other individuals, such as designers and photographers, who have also worked for Publications against their will, often till very late hours, and on projects they never wished to contribute to. All of them share one wish: to be 'normal,' to not bear their unique talent anymore. Other creative skills in School also face the same issue. The Oxford Dictionary defines to exploit as 'to make full use of and derive *benefit* from a resource.' The overuse of this limited group of people, or rather, resources, is not an exaggeration; many others gain far more from our work than we ever receive in return.

### Cartooning after Toye was once my escape from stress or emptiness. But now, it feels like an obligation.

Unlike most problems, this one has no conventional solution. The lack of skill development in School cannot be resolved easily. The only path I see is to train my Juniors to start cartooning. To ensure I am not the only one constantly called upon. But a skill forced onto someone becomes a chore; a burden carried only for the sake of obligation. To remain a true skill, it must come from genuine interest and passion.

The overuse of these individuals also brings harmful consequences. Speaking for myself, being constantly sought after by more people than I would prefer has greatly weakened my interest in doodling. It now feels like routine work, drawing the same Penguin and Batman again and again, not for my joy or at my will, but for that of others. Cartooning, which was once my refuge from stress and emptiness, has now become an obligation, a deadline I must meet or face the consequences.

If this problem remains unsolved, I will continue to work for more Secretariats and organising committees than I can handle, and more Publications than I ever asked for. And if this drought of niche skills continues, all I can do is wish good luck to the primary stakeholders of my essay: the limited few.

# The Stages of Grief

The following details the exploits of the average penguin and his encounters with the unique species — that is, the **Prefectus**Penguinus.



Observe the common Dosco in his natural habitat. Painfully aware of the storm to come, he stands alert, feathers twitching, as a tall higher authority delivers the fateful words. The penguin's eyes widen: he has been chosen.

Nature is cruel, and so is the hierarchy.



Now we see our little penguin fuming. In his mind, the *Prefectus Penguinus* grows into some mighty villain, glowing tie and all. He envisions dramatic battles, clever comebacks, maybe even a flying kick. None of it, of course, will ever happen. He just sits there, glaring at thin air, plotting revenge that will die the moment a *Prefectus* walks in.



Our penguin sits alone, staring at the change slip on his desk. He leans back, a small smirk on his face. "I'll bunk it," he thinks, feeling quite proud of his genius. For a moment, he believes he's outsmarted the system. He doesn't know that the House *Penguin Prefectus* is already watching; his reign as a free bird will be short-lived.



And there he goes. The same penguin who said he would bunk it, now sprinting beside the Main Field, shirt hanging, face full of regret. All that confidence has vanished somewhere near the Pavilion. He is sweaty, tired, and finally at peace: for now.

## विचारों की जंग, शब्दों के संग

**समर्थ गोयल** व **अध्ययन राजगढ़िया** द्वारा 'शशि–प्रहलाद अंतरविद्यालयीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता' की प्रथम संस्करण रिपोर्ट....

दुन स्कूल की पहचान हमेशा से ही उसकी सशक्त वाद-विवाद परंपरा से रही है। विद्यालय में हिन्दी वाद-विवाद की यह परंपरा दशकों पुरानी है, जिसकी नींव वरिष्ठ वर्ग के लिए आयोजित 'कमला-जीवन' अंतरविद्यालयीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता ने रखी थी। यह प्रतिष्ठित प्रतियोगिता 36 वर्षों से विद्यार्थियों के चिंतन, तर्क और वाक-कला को निखारने का कार्य कर रही है परंतु लंबे समय से अंतरविद्यालयीय स्तर पर यह मंच केवल वरिष्ठ वर्ग अर्थात् कक्षा दसवीं से बारहवीं तक ही सीमित रहा। ऐसे में किनष्ठ वर्ग के विद्यार्थियों को अभिव्यक्ति का ऐसा मंच देने की आवश्यकता को महसूस करते हुए, लगभग दो वर्ष पूर्व 2023 में विद्यालय की 'युव भारती सोसाइटी' की पहल पर अंतर-आवासीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता के पहले चरण का शुभारम्भ हुआ। पहले चरण के आयोजन की सबसे बड़ी उपलब्धि यह रही कि अनेक नए प्रभावी वक्ता उभरकर सामने आए। इस वर्ष विद्यालय द्वारा इस प्रतियोगिता को अंतरविद्यालयीय स्वरूप देने की अनुमति के साथ 3 और 4 नवम्बर 2025 को उत्साह, ऊर्जा और विचारों की चमक लिए 'शशि-प्रहलाद अंतरविद्यालयीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता' का प्रथम संस्करण आयोजित किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता का नाम 'शशि-प्रहलाद' विद्यालय की हिन्दी विभाग की अध्यापिका डॉ. सुरुचि मिश्रा के आदरणीय माता-पिता शशि और प्रहलाद नारायण मिश्रा के नाम पर रखा गया है। यह प्रतियोगिता वरिष्ठ वर्ग प्रतियोगिता 'कमला-जीवन' की परंपरा को आगे बढाने का प्रयास है।

देहरादून के 12 प्रमुख विद्यालयों के किनष्ठ प्रतिभागियों ने इस दो दिवसीय प्रतियोगिता में भाग लिया। पूरे आयोजन के दौरान विद्यालय परिसर में प्रतिस्पर्धा का उत्साह और बौद्धिक जोश स्पष्ट रूप से महसूस किया जा सकता था। दो दिनों तक चले इस आयोजन में तीन प्रारंभिक दौर, एक पूर्व-निर्णायक दौर और अंत में निर्णायक दौर आयोजित किए गए। जैसे-जैसे प्रतियोगिता आगे बढ़ी, तर्कों की गहराई और विचारों की परिपक्वता भी निखरती चली गई। निर्णायकों ने प्रतिभागियों की तैयारी, भाषा पर पकड़ और अभिव्यक्ति की सटीकता की खुलकर सराहना की। पूर्व-निर्णायक दौर के लिए जहाँ एक तरफ द दून स्कूल और दून इंटरनेशनल स्कूल आमने-सामने आए, वहीं दूसरे दल के रूप में सेंट जोसेफ़्स अकादमी और वेल्हम गर्ल्स स्कूल का मुकाबला हुआ। दोनों के लिए विषय था -

"पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए व्यक्तिगत प्रयास से अधिक आवश्यक सरकारी नीतियाँ हैं।"

हर वक्ता ने विषय की गहराई में उतरते हुए अपनी बात प्रभावशाली ढंग से रखी। मंच पर प्रस्तुत प्रत्येक तर्क ने दर्शकों को सोचने पर विवश किया। अंतिम और निर्णायक चरण में द दून स्कूल (अर्णव केजरीवाल, समर्थ गोयल और अध्ययन राजगढ़िया) और सेंट जोसेफ़्स अकादमी (पुरंजय पैन्यूली, ऋतकृत नेगी, नव्या जोशी) आमने-सामने आये। दोनों के बीच रोमांचक मुकाबला हुआ और विषय था –

### "सदन का मत है कि न्याय में देरी अन्याय है।"

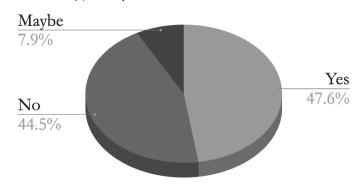
दोनों दलों ने शालीनता और सटीकता के साथ अपने विचार रखे, और पूरा सभागार तालियों की गड़गड़ाहट से गूँज उठा। अंततः द दून स्कूल की टीम ने सभी चरणों में अजेय रहते हुए विजेता ट्रॉफी पर अपना नाम अंकित किया। दून स्कूल की ओर से समर्थ गोयल ने अपने तर्कपूर्ण वक्तव्यों से निर्णायकों को प्रभावित कर 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ वक्ता' का सम्मान प्राप्त किया, जबिक अध्ययन राजगढ़िया को उनके आत्मविश्वास और अभिव्यक्ति की सहजता के लिए 'संभावनाशील वक्ता' चुना गया। समग्र प्रतियोगिता की सर्वश्रेष्ठ वक्ता का पुरस्कार दून इंटरनेशनल स्कूल की कामाक्षी अग्रवाल को दिया गया।

हमें विश्वास है कि हम विद्यार्थियों ने अधिकार के रूप में अपने विद्यालय-जीवन के दौरान यहाँ से जो कुछ भी पाया, उसे कर्त्तव्य के रूप में भविष्य में वापस लौटायेंगे। दून स्कूल की इस संस्कृति को हम कभी मिटने नहीं देंगे। संवाद और विचारों का यह प्रवाह हमेशा बना रहेगा और यह प्रतियोगिता उसी सजीव-परंपरा का एक प्रतीक बन जायेगी।"

हमें आशा है, 'शशि-प्रहलाद अंतरविद्यालयीय हिन्दी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता' के आने वाले संस्करणों में और अधिक विद्यालय इसमें भाग लेकर हिन्दी अभिव्यक्ति की परंपरा को समृद्ध करेंगे। यह आयोजन माल एक प्रतिस्पर्धा नहीं, बल्कि हिन्दी भाषा, चिंतन और अभिव्यक्ति के सजीव स्पंदन का उत्सव था। इसने यह प्रमाणित किया कि अवसर मिलने पर नव-वक्ता अपनी वाणी और विचारों के प्रकाश से किसी भी मंच को आलोकित कर सकते हैं।



# Vox Populi: can success be defined by money?



324 Members of the School Community were polled It is often believed that an individual is measured by their profession and income, with success defined by financial achievement. However, in recent years, this idea has shifted among the youth. Today, success is seen not just in wealth, but in family, friendships, and the small joys that make life meaningful.

 $8\,$  The doon school weekly

# The Week Gone By

#### Rafay Habibullah

For a week that one might have expected to be quieter and "studyoriented' (if only), this one has turned out to be quite explosive. You could say these past seven days passed by like a *flash*. It leaves me struggling to recollect the events of this past week, and well, as usual, it leaves me to predict what will happen between my writing and your reading of this section — as it seems that having to write a Week Gone By well in time for print turns anyone into an oracle. Alas, those skills of prediction seem lopsided now, as the time might just be getting ever so nigh for my dear S Form.

Tuesday marked the first

major event of this week, with S Formers being made to watch as Sc Formers enjoyed *Socials* alone, our own being *mysteriously* cancelled. However, it seemed the coke flowed more readily than the inter-school conversations, and the food maintained its reputation as the main event of the evening. While most Sc Formers did have a great time this week, it was only a select few who had a *blast*.

The groans about waking up for Morning PT in the cold are no strangers to the average Dosco, but at least we can catch up on our sleep academics with Morning Toye Monday onwards. Speaking of *academics*, I would like to congratulate our Junior Hindi debating team, who managed to conquer the first-ever JHDI.

'Tis the season for S Form, as our tie-chasers and 'scopats' hope that their hard work will come to fruition. With the current Sc Form having their last House Feast as Prefects tonight, many hope that they will be holding the mic by the time the next speeches roll around. While certain whispers do give them hope that the day of reckoning could be earlier than expected, I'll remind you of a coordinated quote: "IB is not a plane journey; it is a bus ride, and I will board that bus for you." Make sure you don't forget to board your bus, because the time to start booking is now.

And well — I suppose there is some advice left to give here now, at least preemptively. Remember this: things always work out to be the way they're meant to, even though the winds may blow away your precognitions. To that end, dear Reader: no matter how dark the night, morning always comes, and our journey begins anew.

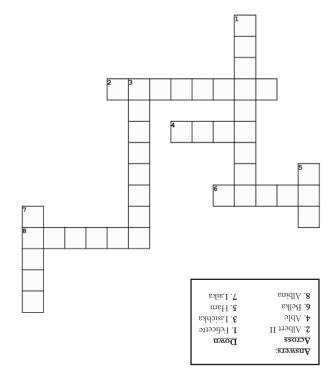
### Crossword | Animals In Space

#### <u>Across</u>

- **2**. The first ever primate in space who unfortunately died upon impact.
- **4**. The first ever monkey to survive a flight to space and actually land alive.
- **6**. Sent by the USSR into space in 1960, she was one of the only dogs who made it back alive from space.
- **8**. A backup for the first animal to go to space, but never actually went into orbit.

#### Down

- 1. The first ever cat to go to space.
- **3**. A Soviet dog who died due to a booster rocket explosion seconds after launch.
- **5**. A chimpanzee sent by the USA to test the Mercury capsule.
- 7. The first animal to go to space, who unfortunately didn't make it back to Earth.



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