



Vol. XXVIII  
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No. 3

# The Elephant

WELHAM BOYS SCHOOL

## THINK ABOUT IT.....

Our task is not to fix the blame for the past, but to fix the course for the future.

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy

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## Editorial

I am gripped with a deep sense of nostalgia as I pen my first Editorial. It is a journey I started under Ajitesh Kir, and as I take on this responsibility from Praharsh Agarwal, I know that I have huge shoes to fill. I hope that with a dynamic new Board, I will be successful in maintaining the great heights reached by the magazine.

The spring sun shines upon the valley as the pleasantly warm weather blesses the school with a variety of flowers and birdlife. This urban forest is decorated like a newly wedded bride, a nature lover's delight.

The Board Exams are raging on like wild fire, and the pressure faced by the first C.B.S.E. batch can be felt by all. Oli wishes them the best for their exams, and sincerely hopes all of them survive the ordeal (Just kidding). After this, many will be gone, leaving their footprints in Welham. This month's Oli contains a glimpse into what school meant for them. They stand on one of life's crossroads, and the only thing they can be sure of is 'uncertainty'.

India, too, stands at a crossroad. At this time of sky rocketing growth and inflation, India, too, is uncertain. On one hand it has modern age monsters like S.P.S. Rathore

and Moninder Singh Pandher while on the other, maestro's like Sachin Tendulkar, A.R. Rahman and Amir Khan as proud ambassadors of this great country. Yet, we have cases such as that of M.F. Hussain, which show us that we still lack tolerance and understanding. The people of this sovereign, socialist, secular republic, on so many occasions, go against their own principles. Still, be it communal riots in Gujarat or the anti North Indian movement in Maharashtra. India nevertheless manages to be an icon of mystic beauty for the rest of the world. The true key to the functioning of this machine is the contradiction that it carries within itself, and yet hangs together as one united entity.

The last few months in the country have been marred by violent protests and an outcry by people from different parts of the country. It is the demand for statehood, which is raising much debate across the country. The government itself seems uncertain about whether it should succumb to these demands or not. The question of 'reorganisation of states' over 'the unity of the country' is something to think about. This month's word war, is a debate for and against the division of states in India.

On a lighter note, India now seems to be divided into two groups (as my Principal says), "the ones who have watched '3- Idiots', and the ones who have not." Apart from being a blockbuster, this movie raised deeper issues linked to the Indian system of education. The pressure on students has reached new levels. The only people who can make a huge difference to this pressure on a student's life are teachers. The teacher has a significant role to play in any student's life. This issue's 'Oli Focus' pays a tribute to all those teachers who have made a deep impression on many a Welhamite's life. Uncertainty in one's life can only be resolved by a teacher.

The Lasagne is a movie lovers delight, where 'Real' life and Reel' life come to a comical juncture, truly humorous stuff. It is something meant totally to be laughed at and not taken too seriously. I know for certain you would not want to miss this one.

So, before you dive into the latest Oliphant, just remember the beauty of 'uncertainty'.

**Jatan Singh Soni**

## Letter to the editor

Dear Mr. Praharsh Agrawal,

I receive your magazine "The Oliphant" quite regularly.

I also note that Welham Boys School is 70 years old this year i.e. it started in 1939.

I joined the school in 1944 so I am proud to be a Welhamite of the initial period. I had to leave school in 1947.

I read the contents of the magazine with great interest and pride.

The basis of my future achievements was laid in the formative years at Welham.

Keep on sending me The Oliphant.

Incidentally, Miss Oliphant was our Head Mistress when I was a student at Welham.

Your Head Master (late) Mr. Kandhari was my guest at Lahore in the early 80's.

Thanks and regards,

*Shahzada A. Monnoo*

## Response

Dear Sir,

Unfortunately, Praharsh cannot reply to you as his tenure as the Chief Editor of The Oliphant is complete. It is really a matter of great pride to receive responses from accomplished people such as yourself. Responses from ex-Welhamites such as you give us great joy and urge us to do better. It would be a great privilege to meet you in person; perhaps you could visit the school in 2012, which would be the institutions Platinum jubilee year. It would be very nice to meet someone who knew Ms. Oliphant very well. Please keep writing to us.

# RINGSIDE VIEW

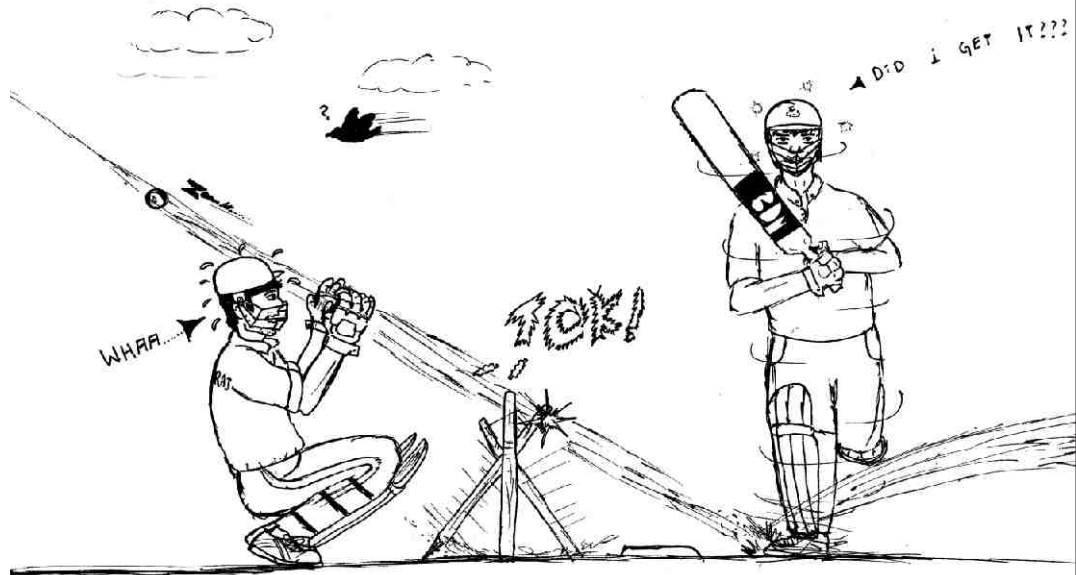
## THE WRAP UP

The smell of cherries is filling the air. Fortunately is the red cherry, the cricket ball! The cricket team started its practices in early February. Early on, it seemed very rusty but with time, the team's shine is coming back. The School Cricket Team has played two matches and has won both of them, the hard way. The result clearly shows the effort on the team's part. Performances by Gaurav Dwivedi, Narayan Dev and Prateek Bordoloi have been the backbone of the team's victories. In fact, Gaurav Dwivedi took a hat trick against the Doon County Club. Some of you may say that the opposition was not exactly formidable, but it doesn't take away anything from a player. It is not every day that one takes a hat-trick.

The thrilling inter-house matches have been played and Jamuna emerged victorious defeating the 'all star' Krishna House team in the finals by a huge margin of 40 runs. At the house level, Shourya Jaiswal and Bhavuk Bansal of Jamuna and Ganga respectively, led their teams exceptionally well and came up with inspiring performances from time to time. Jamuna won the Middle School Inter-House Cricket. Some of these players in the middle school have great talent, and if given the right exposure, they will surely go a long way forward.

Shourya Jaiswal reached the semi-finals of the Tennis State Open, though he was defeated in the finals. A word of advice for the tennis team. They should not let their successes in the past go to their heads. The performances of Shriyam Gupta, Jaskunwar Kohli and Jatan S. Soni were surely a letdown. Moreover they have learnt their lesson the rough way and are getting back on track, with practices resuming at 5:30 am in the morning. Oli demands a better performance.

All this while, the school hockey and basketball team have been roughing it out on the courts and the fields. The zeal and enthusiasm, these two teams



demonstrate are admirable. We wish them the very best of luck for their tournaments and hope they come up with exciting performances as they have done in the past.

## Focus

A fresh year, a new beginning, but some things don't change. Here I am referring to the entire concept of playing sports and leading a team. A leader has to be the driving force that takes a team to the 'next level'; he has to have the enthusiasm to push his team harder when they do not like to be pushed, but the best part is that the team becomes their heart-beat, and the team becomes their ego. This year we have the captains for various sports; Oli gives you an insight into their lives!

### **BHARAT MANCHANDA (Sports, Cricket)**

He may be on the shorter side when it comes to height, but he is surely high on ambition. When asked by the Newz team, what he will do for sports, he responded,

"sleep"! Well, jokes apart, the cricket captain has done a splendid job this season. We have had a clean sweep and Bharat himself has set a great example with his batting and electrifying fielding. Popularly known as Manchi, I hope someday you will impress this city, rather, the 'seher' with your exemplary skills!

### **GAURAV DWIVEDI (Hockey)**

Following in the footsteps of his elder brother, Kaustubh, Gaurav is the hockey captain. Practices started early in February, led by this beanpole of a captain! Don't go by his physique, his dazzling skills with the hockey stick and the wise head on his shoulders are sure indications of what a good captain he will be. He works purely on instinct. He has never been lucky with the fairer sex, though he has made many attempts! But Mr. Hockey Captain, focus on your game, and the Valentines will surely come your way!

### **ABHINEET KANODIA (Basketball)**

This is one sport where the team has

delivered over the years and leading this team is an honour. Abhineet himself has worked very hard and now it seems that he has eyes on the back of his head as he gives passes that not only perplex others, but himself too! He has been giving motivational speeches to the team and Oli wishes the basketball team the very best of luck for the Afzal Khan, Win Mumby and our very own Golden Jubilee. We want to see you complete the treble.

**KRISHNANAND SINGH (Athletics)**

He has an aura of his own. His domination of the event is such that no one has ever thought of winning a long distance race since 2006. Krishna also managed to lose one of Mr. Lahiri's books on long distance running! Way to go Krishna! He has encouraged many juniors to run and has created quite a team of athletes, who will shoulder the burden of expectations once he leaves.

**SHRIYAM GUPTA (Tennis)**

Amongst the big four in tennis, Sriyam was elected Captain for sheer commitment towards the sport. Unfortunately, it seems now that Captaincy has gone to his head and his attendance at the practices has diminished. Hopefully, it will improve in the near future. However, in the past, this lad has been seen running under the blazing sun and in the chilliest of winters practicing his booming forehands and delicate slices. His "bulging biceps" are a strict no-no for everyone; please avoid looking.

**CHETAN ANAND (Shooting)**

Chetan has been a consistent medal winner at rifle shooting. His experience is sure to help the rest of the boys. Oli only wants his tally of medals to increase.

**KISHLAY JHA (Football)**

Well.... I hope I can make a good team out of the tremendous talent available in school.

**ARCHIT GOYAL (Badminton) and ABHIJIT SAHA (Volleyball)**

Archit and Abhijit- the two walls of Ganga. New kids on the block they may be, but the enthusiasm they have exhibited for their sports is nothing but exemplary. Archit showed his calibre last term in the Badminton districts whereas Abhijit

exhibited his prowess rocking the Volleyball courts with his near perfect serves. Oli wishes them the best of luck.

**RAJAT ARORA (Gym) and SAMARTH JAIN (Table Tennis)**

Yet again, this is a duo, this time from Cauvery. Rajat, you may not be Arnold but Oli is very proud of you. Samarth has been playing Table Tennis for the past 8 years. Time and again, he has lived up to the expectations of this school and hopefully will do so in the future as well. He has promised to take Table Tennis to greater levels in his reign and Oli hopes that he manages to do so.

**MANKARAN KHARBANDA (Roller Skating) and KRISHNA AGARWAL (Squash)**

Krishna has a lot of 'fuel' in him, fuel of all kinds! His never-ending love for this sport which was once very popular in Welham has now fetched him the captaincy, and with a lot of tournaments in his hands, he is sure to bring laurels to the school. Mankaran, though has never been spotted in the Skating rink because of fitness problems. However his commitment to the sport cannot be doubted. Oli wishes them the best of luck!

**ISSUE**

Crystal meth, infidelity, steroids, cocaine, sex scandals, these are the words that surround a sportsman's name rather than endurance, speed, skill, charisma! The cult figure in tennis in the 90's, Andre Agassi, with his great energy and amazing courage had become 'GOD' for young budding players, and then came a day where he admitted to using Crystal meth, losing matches intentionally. What impact do you think it would have made on those followers of Agassi? In America you will see Tiger Woods in every billboard (Tag Heur, Nike). But things went bad, and it was revealed that this 'sophisticated' and 'sober' sportsman, widely regarded as a role model had been cheating on his wife, bribing the other women to keep quiet. Shane Warne smoking in Eden Gardens, and the swimmer Michael Phelps caught smoking pot! Martina Hingis testing positive for cocaine and endless cases of the use of steroids. Cristiano Ronaldo has

a "playboy" like image. Ronaldo has been taken to court for a rape allegation and has been involved in more sex romps than one can imagine.

Then there are the likes of The Tendulkars and Schumachers who have served their sport for over a decade, yet there is not a speck of dirt on their sleeves. They too are famous and rich, but the question here is who is a sportsman and what are the expectations from him? On a personal note, I have been actively involved in sports and yes, I have been indisciplined at times. When you are a sportsman, be it at the school level or at the world stage, one is a demigod. Every action of yours is monitored and idolised, be it wrong or right. To be at the pinnacle of sports, one not only has to be skilful but also requires good temperament, commitment and charisma. The special one always stands out. If you stand out, you cannot take the liberty of doing anything wrong. Yes, it is a constraint on your freedom, but I say, "With fame comes great responsibility", Defaulters should learn their lessons well. Sport is the greatest teacher; there is fame, power, money, all that the modern man wants, but not everyone achieves it. For those that do, Oli pleads with you to use your power responsibly and be a sportsman to the core.

*Kishlay Jha  
12-Humanities*

**W.O.B.S**

- Jagit Singh, batch of 1983 has been awarded The Third Outstanding Education Award by the Illinois Institute of Technology.
- Yash Krishna(749/C) has just returned from the US after 10 years and is planning to open a chain of hotels in the hills.



# MUSIC REVIEW

Artist: **Slipknot**

Album: **All Hope is Gone**

Genre : **Heavy Metal**

Release Date : **26 October, 2009**



*Before the album was released, Slipknot vocalist Corey Taylor said in an interview, "It's going to rip your face off." "I don't think the world is ready for this album."*

I can confidently say, he's right. This is by far their best album to date, and easily their most brutal one. They are beginning to differentiate themselves from the rest of the "Death Metal" breed.

One thing that seems to turn metal-heads off Slipknot is their lack of blast beats, constant double bass drum machine gun guitar solos and riffs. Well guess what? They are here. Slipknot show off their technical skill and mettle in this album far more than ever with their new guitarist Jim Root, who used to play for their own side project Stone Sour. The best part is that, despite adding new techniques in this album and adding more "musical" elements the overall quality of music hasn't changed.

The song writing hasn't changed at all from their previous albums. The lyrics have become slightly more mature; they are still dealing with very similar issues as in previous albums but now phrased in a more global and aware manner. Apart from the new additions to their guitar

solos and slightly changed drum work the "Slipknot type" music hasn't changed, and this album, overall, sounds pretty decent. From song to song the mood swings quite dramatically. Ranging from brutal and angry to optimistic, it is far more open than anything Slipknot has ever done in their career.

Some of my favorite songs and the songs I feel you should listen to are "Dead Memories", "Vendetta" and "Sulfur". These songs have the perfect amount of "metal" and are songs which you can call the next generation of heavy metal as these have guitaring with clean distortions and drums with extended double bass which makes it a total new breed of heavy metal.

All in all, I really enjoyed the album, specially as I am a big fan of Slipknot and felt that they would do well with more machine-gun solos and better drumming. The album is not spectacular. It's good but not great. Any Slipknot fan should really love it and Slipknot is more likely to gain more fans out of this.

*Abhinav Suri, X-C*

# MOVIE REVIEW

Guns of Navarone

Crisis in a war, a heart- throbbing plot, action, drama. This movie has everything to fulfil the criteria of a classic war movie.

Shot in 1961, the action takes place during the Second World War in 1939. Navarone was a strong hold of the Germans who held two thousand British soldiers as prisoners on the Island. The British had a very strong naval force and could have released their men, but for the two heavy cannons in Navarone. These two cannons could sink any ship or bombard any aircraft, thus giving to the movie its name "Guns of Navarone ".

From the beginning, the movie fills its viewers with a sense of adventure. It is about a mission which five experts of the British defence force undertake, a mission, which from its very inception, is considered impossible. It is a mission to ruin the guns.



The movie started slowly, but gripped the viewer's attention once the mission started.

Whether the five characters were stuck in a sea storm or they were climbing a cliff, at no point of time would you find the camera work lacking. It is so very real!

As they are inching near the guns, the men are joined by two women. One is the sister of one of the five men on mission, and the other a companion of hers who had been tortured by the Germans, and had managed to flee. They go through caves and cities, they go through fights with the Germans and among themselves, they even have a traitor in the midst, but that does not stop them.

An ideal movie to watch with friends.

*Samarth Jain. 12-Commerce.*



## 25 YEARS AGO IN WELHAM

*This is an extract from what the boys felt at that time in Welham.*

### ARE YOU A GOOD FRIEND

Having trouble with your friends lately?  
Are you becoming alone individual?  
Try to answer the following questions truthfully and you will learn why  
Tick (a) or (b) according to choice, and then check your score at the end.

1. (a) Do you remember the names of your acquaintances when being introduced?  
(b) Or do you struggle to make a good impression?
2. (a) Are you a comfortable person to be with?  
(b) Or are you easily ruffled?
3. (a) Are you egoistical and take pride in pretending you know everything?  
(b) Or are you normally humble and natural?
4. (a) Do you cultivate the art of being interesting?  
(b) Or don't you care whether other people want to associate with you or not?
5. (a) Do you sincerely try to heal any misunderstanding you may have had with another?  
(b) Or would you wait till the other person makes the first move?
6. (a) Are you a social climber who makes friends just to go around with the right people?  
(b) Or do you practise liking other people until you learn to do genuinely?
7. (a) Do you make it a point to congratulate others on their achievements?  
(b) Or do you secretly envy their success?

8. (a) Can you sincerely stand up for your own ideas?  
(b) Or do you shift around just to flatter the person you are with?
9. (a) Do you believe that in making and keeping friends you must be prepared to change your habits?  
(b) Or would you want your friends to like you as you are?
10. (a) Do you think that you should take the initiative in forming friends?  
(b) Or would you wait for someone to come looking for you?

### ANSWERS:

Score: 5 points for each correct answer

Question	1	a
Question	2	a
Question	3	b
Question	4	a
Question	5	a
Question	6	b
Question	7	a
Question	8	a
Question	9	a
Question	10	a

### Maximum Score: 50

If you have genuinely scored 40-50 points, you are really a true friend to have.

20-35 points means that with a little effort you can have more friends.

20 points and under would indicate that you are about to lose a good friend if you don't change your present attitude.

**If you would stand well with a great mind, leave him with a favourable impression of yourself; if with a little mind, leave him with a favourable impression of himself.**

*Courtesy Archives*

# FALSE HOPE

Huff and Puff, Puff and Huff;  
They always come together;  
Always followed by a cough  
And smoke in any weather  
He smoked his pipe to look tough  
And wore a jacket made of leather  
Thakur Sahib's voice was rough;  
His yellow teeth- no better.

His eye were sleepy, always yellow  
As he sat beneath the mango tree.  
He puffed high and he huffed low  
As if to show that he was free.  
Above him used to sit a crow  
But soon it had to flee.

Thakur Sahib's smoke did grow  
So thick that he couldn't see.  
His whole life went down the drain  
After he married the pipe,  
He had started the habit to escape  
the pain  
Of a million tears to wipe.  
It had saved him from the dreaded  
rain  
And all the scars and stripes  
Thakur Sahib smoked again and  
again  
Until his lungs got ripe.

Huff and Puff , Puff and Huff  
Panted the pallbearers  
As they carried the body up the slope  
Followed by relatives and sharers  
Of the will left behind with all of the  
dope,  
Thakur Sahib's leather jacket, which  
had no willing wearers,  
Some tobacco, golden teeth, and a  
pipe called 'hope'.

Wish me luck for my exams

*Lalremthuanga Ralte, X 'C'*

# EDUCONVEX

## A conference for the development of effective skills in education

I was asked by Mr. Lahiri to attend a conference at the Habitat Centre, Delhi, - "Educonvex 2010" from the 5th to 6th of February. The conference was based on effective skills development in education today. A highly commendable panel of educationists provided presentations on diverse topics related to teacher training and to education leading to a productive society. I was drawn to a number of interesting talks such as those by Mr. M.M.Pant, Chairman, Steering Committee, EDUConvEx 2010 and Former Pro-Vice Chancellor IGNOU and Dr. Dralie O Koshy, Director General (Education & Training), AEPC, NIFT.

Sitting there in the world of educationists from as far away as Uzbekistan, Nepal and Bangladesh, I soon realized that my representing Welham Boys School was very important. You, the students of Welham Boys, are the youth of India who are actually poised to take this country forward. Before you can do that, maybe you'd like to know that you make up a third of our population. By 2020 your age group will be more in number than the youth of countries such as Brazil, China, USA and Germany. In 2020 we will also see the average age of India's youth at 29 years. With statistics such as these you can see that you are very much the future base of this country.

Before we can leap off our chairs with excitement maybe we need to begin thinking about the type of education imparted to you? Some questions you must be asking yourself; are you imparted with a full creative session on the subject you are studying? Why are we dependant on tutoring if classrooms suffices our needs? To bring about a change in the mindset one needs to ask the above questions and many more. We

need to eventually bring about an effective, creative individual helping to create an effective economy.

Dr. D.V. Sharma, General Secretary of the Teacher Training Body delivered a message on how teachers as individuals must bring curiosity, dignity, reliability and thoughtfulness to their classrooms over and above 'ROTE' learning. The classroom teacher must be accountable for the learning process and must be provided the tools to sow the seeds which will ultimately bear the fruits. This teacher-student learning experience must go above his mere expectations of results.

'Youth is the joy, the little bird that has broken out of the eggs and is eagerly waiting to spread its wings to open and find freedom with joy'(Chinese proverb)

All in all the conference interaction was a tremendous experience and it made me realize that we are truly at an interesting and transitional phase and within our education system with an exciting future ahead.

Ms. Toral Sharan

## Six months from now

*I don't know where destiny shall take me,  
Whether I will like or hate it,  
I cannot predict.*

*But what I know is that wherever I am,  
Whatever I do,  
I shall always miss people I met at Welham,  
Cause a part of them shall stay with me  
forever,*

*I shall miss thinking and laughing with PD  
And Kohli for our joint marriage plans!  
I shall miss discussing books with Ved Vyas,  
And colleges with Sarthak.*

*I shall miss discussing world issues with Asif,*

*And those dumb jokes with Battery and Bushy,  
Tayal for his advice and Kunal for his idea of fun,  
And middle school stories with Naveen and  
Manish.*

*I shall miss Newz talks with Nik,  
And Oli madness with DG,  
Akshay and Prateek for Burnin up rockshows  
And Klim for our Everest Aspirations*

*I shall miss listening to music with Sid,  
And science-ee talks with Prakhar,  
Bansi for taking everybody's case  
And Jamuna discussions with Marif*

*I shall miss Tej's wild ideas  
And Mahra's milk diet!  
Venting my frustration on JJ  
And introspection with Kacho and Sen*

*I shall miss talking about school to Mannu,  
And Jazzy for just rambling endlessly,  
Fighting with Amanbir to keep my room clean,  
And Buru for speaking too loud!*

*I shall miss Siddhart for his sly jokes*

*And Aman for movie knowledge  
AP's love issues  
And Prerit for hogging others tuck!*

*I shall miss Chirag guiding me like my mom.  
And Ahmer for his waanabe sensible ones  
Tagra and Gaind for weird face expressions  
And Surya for his command over his clan!*

*I shall miss debating with Vinayak  
And Shiv for pushing me to the Gym.  
Finally, I shall miss a teacher called AT  
Who as professionally as a counselor  
solved my complicated problems like a friend!*

*Probably these people are the reason that,  
I did not cry when I joined  
But will cry when I leave ...*

*Praharsh Agarwal*



# WHACKY WOODSEATERS



## Holi

India is a land of many festivals. Holi is one of the colourful festivals of India. It is also known as 'Festival of colours'. This festival is celebrated because of the legend of Prahlad and Holika. Once there was a king named Hiranaya Kashyap. He was very cruel and he wanted everyone to believe that he was God. But Prahlad worshipped just Lord Vishnu. Hiranaya Kashyap wanted to kill his son for this reason. He asked his sister Holika to sit in the fire with Prahlad. She did as her brother asked. she would not burn

because she had a magic boon which would protect her. The opposite happened and instead of Prahlad, Holika was burnt. Lord Vishnu took the avatar of Narasimha (half man half lion) and killed Hiranayakashyap.

This year`s holi was really enjoyable. When I woke up in the morning and looked up in the mirror, I saw that my whole face was covered with colours. I was very angry. I knew my sister was upto

mischief . I went out but I couldn`t find my sister. Then suddenly somebody threw a water balloon on me. It was my sister. I also wished her happy holi and we hugged each other. Soon my friends came . We played with the water guns. We filled buckets with coloured water and splashed it on each other. We ate mouthfuls of sweets and gujia. We also threw water balloons on each other`s faces. We played with non- toxic colour, natural colours and also permanent colours.

It was an enjoyable and a memorable experience.

*Devansh Raheja*  
Class-5B





# The Oli 24 X 7

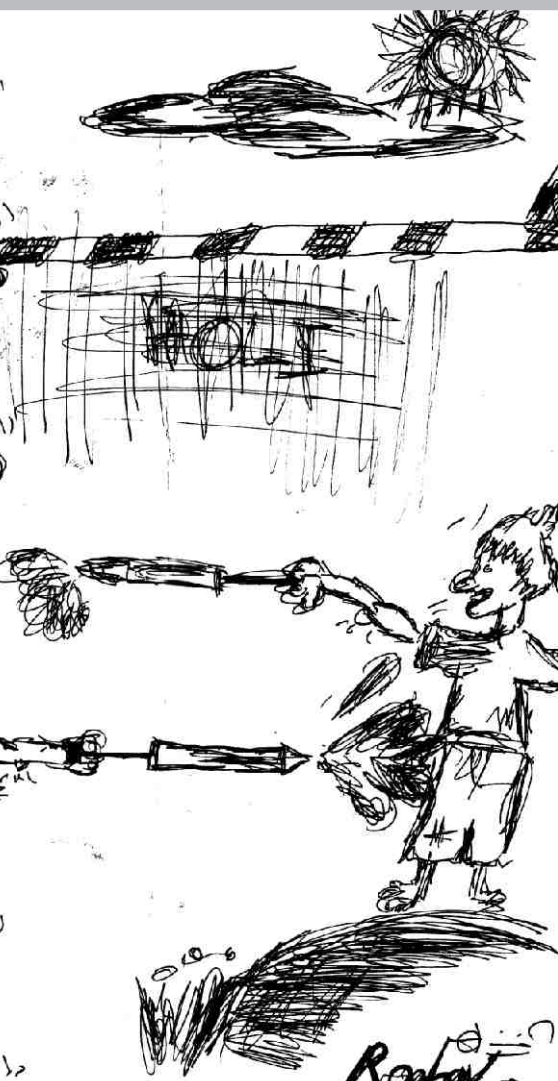
## WELHAM NOW

- Classes 10 and 12 came back to school on 4th January for the winter coaching camp.
- School reopened for spring term on 1st February.
- An aptitude test workshop for class X was conducted by Miss Richa Saklani on 1st February.

- Miss Richa Saklani conducted a career workshop for class 11 on 2nd February.
- The Pre- board examination for classes 10 and 12 began on 2nd February.
- The Investiture Ceremony for the year 2010-11 was held on 6th February.
- The cricket inter-house for middle and senior school was held recently, in which Jamuna house bagged the trophy for the 3rd consecutive year in middle school. In the senior school too, Jamuna house bagged it! Well done!!
- Biding adieu to batch of 2009-10, class 11 organized a farewell party for them on the eve of Valentine's Day.
- The School lawn tennis team participated in the state tennis tournament from 12th February to 14th February. Shaurya Jaiswal reached the semi-finals, while Jatan Singh Soni and Sriyam Gupta lost in the quarters.
- The School is training Welhamites for first aid/responding during any casualty through the first responder programme which is being held every Sunday for various classes.
- The Graduation ceremony for the batch of 2009-10 was held on 20th February. The Chairman of the Board Of Governors, Mr. Darshan Singh presided over the ceremony.
- A Literary Quiz for Middle School was organized by the English department on 25th February, Ganga house were

the winners.

- The Ramanujan Mathematics Quiz for Middle School was organized by the Maths Department on 23rd February, Ganga house was declared winner and Jamuna house were second.
- We have five new faces on the staff this term, namely Miss Namrata Kini in the Art Department, and four wardens for senior school, Mr.S.P.Sharma, Mr.P.Kumar Nagerkoti, Mr. J.S. Pal and Mr. K.S. Bedi.
- A Science Quiz was organized by the Science Department on 28th February on the occasion of National Science Day. It was conducted by Mr. Bagchi.
- The CBSE Board examination for class 10 and 12 began on 3rd March. Best of Luck!!!
- The Hindi Department organized a poetry recitation competition for Middle School on 3rd March. Jamuna house was adjudged the winners, Lakshey Mittal the best speaker and Anubhav Goyal the most promising speaker.
- Aditya Mahara represented the Uttarakhand State soccer team in soccer Nationals tournament held at Mandi, Kartanatika in month of December.
- The Welham Cricket team emerged victorious against Doon County Club by 6 wickets on the 7th of March, 2010. It won a match against Doon International School by two wickets too, held on 25th February.



# OLI

## FOCUS

## TIME FLIES

The ticking clock waits for none. Earth and nature follow their own routine and everything that begins comes to an end. The nature of things is secondary, joyous or disheartening. The statement is universal, irrespective of exceptions and inexorable in nature.

In spite of the ephemeral quality of things in life and even life for that matter, there is a treasure I know of, one which we carry within ourselves. It holds all that we need, and knows when we need it. It reminds us of our victories when we are low, of our dear ones when in solitude, of our failure when we lose direction and of the beauty in things when miserable.

I call it treasure; the world around me calls it memories.

Do you remember the time you first entered school and the tears you shed? Do you remember the first girl you fell for? The teacher you liked the most or the one who always encouraged you?

In this 'Oli Focus' we bring to you a flashback of gleaming 'gold' and 'silver' memories. A treasure hunt in the childhood of those who owe theirs to the person who made it worth the fun. Memories of a relationship which once blossomed, have a wonderful aura. They may not be eternal but they never fail to express themselves in a smile.

I believe it is time to plunder and loot, while some of the treasure keepers are still here. Who better to share these memories with us than the people themselves?

### Mrs. Poonam Tandon

The charming smile, the witty one-liners and the ever-friendly teacher who once graced the campus- I am talking about Mrs. Poonam Tandon. She joined the school in 2004 as a chemistry teacher. Her son and daughter also studied here. Her inspirational stories like 'Tuesdays with Morrie' left a great impact on me. Her witty one-liners like 'Empty Vessels make the most noise', still ring in my ears. She had seen many hardships in life; still she had a

soft corner for everyone. I recall that she used to buy biscuits and juices for her friends in Prem Dham. She went to the extent of presenting her watch to someone who admired it. In addition, she was an exceptionally good Chemistry teacher. I am pretty confident that wherever she goes, she will continue to enchant people.

Love you, Ma`am!

*Rohit Chaudhary*

### Mr. K.S. Biradar

No matter how long we work, no matter how little we sleep, no matter how hard we try- very few of us are living the life we have imagined or hoped for.

The Air Force retiree, Mr. Kalyan Sidana Biradar joined us as the HOD, Sports and the Athletics Coach in July 2001.

A dynamic personality indeed, he had a polite and pleasant approach. He believed

"There is no passion to be found playing small,

In settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living"

*(Nelson Mandela)*

No matter how small or young I was, Mr. Biradar made me realise that I could still afford a dream. He not only believed in me but also taught me how to believe in myself. He taught me the difference between having a dream and showing conviction.

Mr. Biradar, my coach, had a strong, smart and a soldier like body. His body language reflected his disciplined mind. The star he found in most of us here, created records and wonders on the track and field. When it came to his dedication for the game or his determination as a coach, the sky was the limit. He arrived on the field at 4 every morning and by 5 we used to get started with the planned schedule. We didn't miss out even on Sundays, which was scheduled for a longer run or a tougher workout.

His dedication to sport gave many boys with the urge to join. We all looked up to him for his excellent guidance and dedication to sport. His ultimate aim was to get athletics to the level where basketball was.

No amount of moons can replace the sun, and in my heart so is the case with him- he'll stay a legend in our hearts.

*Krishnanand Singh*

### Mrs. Ritu Kumar

Love and affection are what made up Ritu Ma'am. She walked into Class 2 to make a bunch of 7 year olds imbibe some artistic skills. Well, people like me who lacked this artistic component just sat

admiring hers. Every time Harshit (Anant) drew a landscape and wanted his mom to admire it, Ma'am evolved into his mother. Every time Divyajeet and I had misty eyes, she held our hands. There was never a moment when we felt deprived of love in her presence. Karan (Ma'am's son) was never "coochie- coo-ed" in front of us, it was always the other way. No wonder Karan was so jealous of us. She was one of those people who transformed education into entertainment and probably that is why everything she taught me, from art to the most hideous tricks of "dog and the bone", remains cemented in my mind even today. Things seemed to be as smooth as butter with her around but every journey comes to an end and so did this one. She left Welham in 2006 leaving some empty patches in the White House (Junior School) which only someone as loving and dear as Ritu Ma'am can fill. Ma'am, whenever we look at White house, we can see you. We all love you.

Rachit Goyal

### **Mrs. Nonie Bagga**

Exactly 10 years ago, it was time for me to come here. I had no clue what it would be like to come to a place though my brothers were here. I would call her my 'first' teacher. She added a lot of value to my life. She taught us a prayer in her first class which we dutifully recited on a daily basis. The prayer said ` Day by day, in every way I`m getting better and better. Oh lord! I pray to you, increase my knowledge day by day.'

To this day, she treats me as that same child I was in Class 2. Mischievous as we were, a chart was put up with golden and black stars which were given to us by her, according to our behaviour. I still remember that while putting up that chart I stepped on a thumb pin, barefoot. Though I felt no pain, she started howling after seeing blood ooze out of that little puncture in my foot. It seemed as if all of my pain had flown into her. This was how caring she was. She was the one who persuaded me to take part in a Founders Play and, to play squash.

That was when school became our second home. We cannot give her back the love and affection that she gave us.

The bond between us that was made 10 years ago will stay on forever. She is a part of what I am today. I totally owe it to you Ma'am. Miss You.

*Bharat Manchanda*

### **Ms. Rehman**

'Rehman Ma'am', this is how everyone knew her in Welham. She was an old employee or rather an old friend to every member of this small family, as , she had been with school since the time of Ms H.S. Oliphant.

Professionally, she was a Hindi teacher but personally, she was a mother to us. Our first class in school was with her and during the hours we used to be with her, we used to forget about every luxury we got in our homes. She provided us with the warmth, love and education through which we could grow.

Being a weak student, I enjoyed the 'privilege' of going to her house for extra classes. Those were the moments of merriment for me. As for the students who were exceptionally good at Hindi, they used to get fancy postcards with photos of various monuments printed on them. Secretly, I always wanted to receive that postcard from her hands but that moment never came. Now a postcard seems to be a very 'non' asset to give to any student for their excellence. This was what made her different from her colleagues. She kept us away from the materialistic world and at the same time, she rewarded the students with love in the form of a postcard.

Had it not have been for her, many of us would have turned out to be completely different. A lot of the goodness, kindness or feeling of social responsibility we have today is because of her.

*Shivang Juneja*

### **Mrs. Erica Fuss Mukherjee**

It was one Monday morning class that I first met Ms Fuss. It was pretty unusual to see a charming American taking a Monday morning class, but I adjusted just fine. I auditioned for the Founders play which Ma'am was directing, and soon became a regular feature in all the work she did in school.

Ma'am was a thorough professional. She

was the rare combination of an actor-cum-director-cum-casting agent. She worked a lot with the juniors, and at a personal level, I am deeply indebted to her for all, the theatre and public speaking she taught me. I remember the long, night-practices we used to have, and how we used to irritate Ma'am with our irresponsible behaviour. Another incident that comes to my mind was the treat which Ma'am took us to Prez for. She was carrying a handsome amount of Rs. 6000 to give twelve students a treat, and was shocked to see a Rs. 9000 bill!!! But we still managed pretty well. Ma'am had become well versed with the Indian system of "jugad".

She is now married to Mr. Abhik Mukherjee (a former W.B.S. teacher).I want to thank her and wish her the best for life.

Jatan Soni

### **Mr .Ravi Lall**

Mr. Ravi Lall was one of the most dedicated teachers one could come across. He had an impeccable conceptual knowledge of all the Physics he taught us, but more than that, he was a lover of the subject. I can say without doubt that he was the man who led me to take up Science in the senior classes.

He was my housemaster during my time in the Middle School. This was when I developed very close ties with the Lall family. It was routine for me to have food at their residence (Thank you loads Poonam Ma'am!).

Sir left Welham to join a school in Jammu as the Principal. I'm sure he must be a boon for all the students of his new school.

*Jatan Soni*

### **Mr. Sameer Upadhaya**

A teacher is someone who one can look up to. He cares for you, encourages you, and is most importantly, a friend besides being a teacher. To me, that was Mr. Sameer Upadhaya.

We shared a common interest in magic and riddles that held us together even after class hours. My most memorable experiences with him were of the days when we were working on the Maths



presentation, the famous Bin, Min and Din. He entertained our maths classes with daily riddles, magic and presentations, the memories of which are still fresh in our minds.

Down to the earth, humble, kind and loving are characteristics that one could always associate with Sir. But what gave him the edge was his sense of humour. He always had a smile on his face and could lighten up the atmosphere, anytime.

Sir taught us to respect others' opinions. He explained to us that the tree which bore the maximum fruit was the most bent. Most importantly, he taught us to be curious and to learn because of which our learning has never stopped and never will.

Thank you for all the days we spent together- days I cherish till date, while longing for the day when we can chat over a cup of coffee, once again.

*Shriyam Gupta*

**Ms. Aniha Brar**

There are things about A that I can never

forget; One, her first words to me. I had returned to school a week late, and I was sitting in the Newz room when this tall lady walked in and said, "So you're the hotshot editor?... And I blushed. Two, the last time we met in school, She literally had to bend down to give me a hug, but I can't remember what she said. It was something like a "goodbye".

I was under the impression that my relationship with A was limited to Welham Newz matters, but it was the first time I entered her office in my free school that I realized that Welham Newz was only a small part of a large entity. From then on, my free schools were utilized either in the Newz room or chatting with her in her office. It's hard to say what felt better, though I am more inclined to the latter. One of the saddest days in my life was the day I got to know she was leaving- it was worse than the day she actually left.

A is one of those rare people who end up being more precious than anything else, and more enlightening than any other

textbook. I know that Welham Newz has suffered greatly ever since she left.

Somehow, Welham Newz has never been as great ever since she left, and neither have I. I could go on and on about her, but like she said, "It would have to be 'endless'."

*Jaskunwar Kohli*

The only regret I have at the end of this is that a large number of us are not here to share our memories. Because of this only a small part of our family has been brought back to our minds. This, in no way makes us forget the others who put their heart and soul into contributing to make the school what it is today.

I hope you enjoyed the flashback. And even if you did not know any of these mentors, I hope you at least remembered yours, taking you to back into those 'good old days.'

*Rajat Arora*

# Interview with Brigadier Brar

The Investiture Ceremony is one of the most sacred ceremonies of our school. It is the time when the representatives of the student community are sworn in to take responsibility for the school. This body known as the Prefectorial Body takes an oath that goes on as follows:

I PROMISE TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE,  
TO SET THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF  
INTEGRITY, COMMITMENT AND UNSELFISHNESS.  
TO EXECUTE MY FAIR AND KINDNESS,  
WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR,  
AND IN ALL THAT I DO,  
TO UPHOLD THE HONOUR AND GOOD NAME OF THIS  
OUR SCHOOL.

This event is held in an atmosphere of great solemnity. The following became the representatives of the Welham Boys student community this year:

**Head Boy** - Abhineet Kanodia

**Sports Captain** - Bharat Manchanda

**Academics Captain** - Keshav Bhartia

**Activities Captain** - Meraj Nisar Khan

**Prefect** - Jatan Singh Soni

**Prefect** - Eby Vincent Mathews

**Prefect** - Bhavuk Bansal

**Prefect** - Kishlay Jha

The Chief Guest for the ceremony was Brigadier Ranbir Brar. Oli presents you excerpts from an interview with him.

**Oli:** We have with us this evening Brigadier Ranbir Brar, who has had a long and distinguished career in the Indian army. Sir, it is indeed an honour to have you here.

**Brigadier:** Thank you; I am privileged to be at Welham.

**Oli:** Since you are here for the Investiture Ceremony and you yourself have been a leader, what qualities do you think a leader should essentially have?

**Brigadier:** Well....being a leader in my capacity is one thing but as a Prefect it is another, Let me talk about the leadership qualities that you people must have. First and foremost is your school. Your total dedication, your loyalty and keeping the dignity and the honour of the school, is your primary concern. Secondly, when I say "school" I do not mean the buildings and the play fields- I mean the Principal, staff, your standard, the teachers, everything and the ethos of the school.

So if you have compassion and consideration, and the qualities I have mentioned, then you will make a very good prefectorial body and good leaders in life.

**Oli:** Sir, you yourself have been to some of the best residential and public schools in the country. Which school or college do you have the fond memories of and why?

**Brigadier:** Yes, I am very fortunate. You always have fond memories of the school you finished off from. Ours was one of the last batches to do Senior Cambridge. Bishop Cotton was the school I finally moulted and passed out from. And I have fond memories of the school. I was telling some boys that once your school life is behind you, for 20 to 30 years you are busy with your life but later, at a certain age you look back and think of your school. That is when you acknowledge where you started from and know that it was your school which prepared you for all those years you did well in life

**Oli:** Sir, how have the skills that you imbibed in the army helped you in your corporate career?

**Brigadier:** Everything I have learned in the army has helped me in my corporate career. In fact, the corporate world has imbibed a number of qualities from the army. The jargon is different but all the principles have been in the defence services for over 200 years. Today, all the

practices of management have been picked up from the army. In addition, I think that the biggest common factor is that you have to deal with human beings. Now, in the army, we are not only dealing with human beings but we are dealing with lives, so your perspective on dealing with humans is a little different from anywhere else. I think this is a very good asset for the country and the corporate world too.

**Oli:** Sir, you have participated in the INDO-PAK war of 1978, which was a huge victory for our country. What are the memories that flash across your mind when you think of that year?

**Brigadier:** We had recently been commissioned into the army with only two months of service when we went for that war. When I look back now, I think it was one big "fair". Its only when you come back home that you realize that war is no good. The worst thing that any commander has to do is to face the family of a soldier who lost his life fighting for the country. That is a very painful thing.

**Oli:** Sir, how did it feel to be commissioned into, and then go on to command the same regiment which your father once commanded?

**Brigadier:** Yes, I think it was one of the most proud moments of my life, to sit in the same office as my father. I was the 24th commanding officer of the battalion. My father was the 12th. Our battalion was raised in 1941 during the Great War and I believe that even the third generation of officers has joined the battalion. However, till date I have been the only second generation commanding officer who commanded the same regiment as his father.

**Oli:** What was the name of your battalion, sir?

**Brigadier:** Now it is known as the Eighth Mechanized Infantry. In my father`s time it was the 7th Punjab Regiment.

**Oli:** Getting a little political here, what would be your take on the Sukhna Land Scam?

**Brigadier:** Since you are asking that

direct question, there is no scam. What do you understand by a scam? You assume that some government agency has taken money or has handled money in an inappropriate manner. However, it was not army land which had been transferred. It was the land which belonged to the government. The only thing that needs to be done before starting construction near a sensitive army area is to get a "no objection certificate" from the army authorities. Now, it is for that authority to decide whether something goes against national security or not.

**Oli:** Does it become subjective then?

**Brigadier:** It could be subjective. The man who has to face a court martial was not even there. The only thing he possibly did was to speak to the gentleman and if I could use the word, make a 'sifarish.' The person who has actually signed the NOC is more responsible. It is not a scam.

**Oli:** Being a neighbour of the school, what do you like or dislike about this school?

**Brigadier:** Well, I dislike nothing except that you have very high walls. I think school is doing very well I have been here for various occasions and have positive feelings.

**Oli:** To wrap the interview up, what would you like to say to the Welhamites and to the youngsters of the country?

**Brigadier:** I will leave it to the country, but I alone would definitely like to give a piece of advice to the Welhamites. You people are very fortunate to be in such a good institution. Don`t waste your resources, don`t waste your parents' money and make full use of this opportunity. The school has so much for you. You can learn many things, don`t waste time. Do good things as I said, think good and do good. That is the advice.

**Oli:** Thank you, Sir.

WELHAM  
 Just to me that  
 good to run, good to  
 good to get dirty, good to feel  
 me healthy, and after that is over to  
 remember first you have to dream your  
 and then paint your dream!!!

Nikhil Singh Phanghar  
 '00-10'

In the last two years  
 WELHAM taught me to dream  
 And to fulfill them  
 WELHAM taught me to live life  
 the hard way  
 WELHAM is the best thing  
 ever happened to me  
 THANK YOU WELHAM - SPB  
 (09-14)

There are times when you  
 to start all over again, re  
 the time you were hesitating  
 your mothers hand, right  
 first tear that rolled do  
 face, but today is no diff  
 I dont want to leave you  
 to hold your hand, I u  
 on, its not easy to le  
 is... miss you,

WELHAM taught me to  
 dream as if i will live  
 forever, but live life  
 as if I will DIE  
 Today... Vive la Welham  
 M. ANAWA (01-10)

Someone asked me  
 what Welham is worth to you  
 After a lot of thought,  
 I concluded it is - 'Nothing'  
 You just cannot pit it against anything  
 Welham you are priceless  
 'Alvida' Welham

About a boy who on  
 Was too reticent to  
 But was then taught  
 Used to wait for de  
 But was then taught  
 Just wanted to fit in  
 But was then taught

I have been asked to pen down my  
 travels in Welham in a 3x3 cm. box... amusing!!  
 Well, all I can say is that Welham has taught me  
 to 'AIM FOR THE MOON, EVEN IF YOU FAIL, YOU'LL  
 LAND AMONG THE STARS'....!

Nikhil Singh  
 '00-10'

ADIEU BUDDY,  
 PRAKHAR AGARWAL  
 [01-10]

From those four Dime  
 letters to mom,  
 Sabbing in one corner  
 at the dorm.  
 Socials, self-outs and  
 texts,  
 Friends, 'their friends' and guests.

When I look back at my last two years,  
 I think about all those endless Oli meetings,  
 the intense Debating Society in school...  
 the innumerable activities in school...  
 I think about all those beautiful times,  
 that will forever remain as memories...  
 Miss You Welham,

Aditya  
 '08-10  
 there's something unpredictable but in the  
 right, I surely, Truly, Madly, definitely  
 TIME OF MY LIFE!!  
 Cheerio  
 abhayjib  
 (08-10)

About one...  
 Who thought he would  
 But now has brothers  
 who could have been  
 But was taught like  
 Who suprisingly did not  
 But will cry when  
 Who promises to make

Looking back at all this  
 I'd say with pride, 'I LIVED LIFE WELHAM SIZE.'  
 that I was once a WELHAMITE!!  
 - Aditya Mahara [02-10] '00-10'

AS 'THE' DAY COMES CLOSER  
 I CAN ONLY SAY.....

Today I caught myself smiling for no reason  
 then I realised that I was thinking about my  
 days in school and ofcourse the advice.

PRATYUSH  
 TNRAN  
 [05-10]

GOOD FRIENDS  
 DON'T LET U  
 DO STUPID THINGS  
 ..... ALONE:)

God teaches us not to envy,  
 anyone or anything.....  
 But how can I not envy  
 The benches and trees of Welham  
 Who are here to stay  
 While I have to leave.....!!

The Dove taught the  
 The Sheep taught the  
 The Cleverfish taught  
 They taught the y  
 the 3 forces requi  
 Such was my upb



want  
to leave  
from that  
am your  
event...  
I want  
to stay  
... it never  
always will  
PD @  
[05-10]

Welham gave me  
Welham made me struggle  
Welham showed me courage  
Welham showed me respect  
Welham made me dance  
Welham made me sing  
Welham gave me friends  
Welham found me love  
Welham gave me a cut  
which made me a different person  
For all these beautiful memories  
THANK YOU WELHAM

Escaping from my  
daily chores,  
resting under the shade of  
the neem tree,  
I stayed into the oblivion,  
bright, open field...  
counting my days left  
remembering the fights, the  
laughter, the jokes, the  
fun I will wait when I enter,  
and will wait when I leave  
Forewell, dear  
Vijayak  
Rajesh  
06-10

I've spent 11 years in Welham  
feeling homesick,  
But now as I leave, I fear,  
that when I go home,  
I may burst into tears saying,  
"Mom, I'm feeling homesick."  
- Amarbir Singh [1999-2010]

Our tenure in school is just an hour in eternity,  
Feelings of joy, sorrow, despair, desperation, frustration  
are ephemer

They too shall pass with time,  
But what remains as long as I breathe my last,  
is what I have learnt from this wonderful inn,  
Because remember, a diamond is less valuable when  
mined initially but becomes priceless when it  
receives a cut above the rest from its maker."

- 00 VEDHAS SURESH (04-10)

only have friends,  
instead.  
taught like any other student,  
a son  
cry when he joined,  
he leaves.  
the Elephant proud someday...  
nd ill - Your son  
nd ill Pratiash Agrawal  
(05-10)

First I hated it,  
Then I got used to it,  
And now,  
I just can't live without it.

...Spending 11 yrs in Welham made me  
realize that life is not about what  
you got but about what you make  
out of what you got. Now as I reflect  
upon my life in Welham I can only say  
that it was a long long Journey!!!

- Ayush Rajal  
(00-10)

Tum ho to, hai sab haasil, - aman's  
Tum nahi, toh kya hai yahaan, [99-10]  
Tum ho to hai, sapno ke jaisa haasil,

EK SAMAA  
Tum ne hee sab sikhaaya hai  
Shukriya!!

- Ayush Agarwala (PAA  
101-10)

eaglet to fly,  
lion cub to hunt,  
the young shark to swim,  
young ones: Peace, Mercy and Spirit,  
red to bring light into an era  
of darkness,  
ringing, here at Welham.

- The Chimera,  
Siddharth Agrawal,  
[2002-2010]

I just hope that whatever happened in these  
5 years would be good enough for me to remember Welham  
and for Welham to remember me....

aveev Gupta  
(00-10)

Keshav Mohan  
(2005-10)

Tejpratap Singh Kallou  
00-10

from 'D' Blues... Saving Welham  
and giving them a taste of  
The "Browns"!  
↳ Paa, Shanky, Lobo, Shambhu,  
Woody woo, Samir Bhai, Passo.

Welham,

We shared all our joys and sorrows together, tears and smiles with one another.....

Thanks for letting me live life at its best

ONCE A WELHAMITE

ALWAYS A WELHAMITE

Adios,

Ahmer Adif  
(2004-2010)

I have spent 9yrs in this beautiful land, -- It has taught me to face new challenges, To learn to live with my head held high even in case of failure ---- and today when I leave this place, I just have one thing to say ---- "things come and go, but WELHAM your sweet memories, will never fade out." Shukriya

Prateek Singh

Prateek Singh  
[01-10]



9 years of friendship, laughter, joy, fears, fights and most importantly 'Taking people's case'!

All this amounts to infinite memories to cherish.

We would have never been without you WELHAM.....

Aayush  
(Aayush a...)

I've had my share of a lifetime and nothing made a deeper impact in my life.

Why do all good things I could never have had than I received at Welham. Now as the time come for school and think it was I hope Welham along with me. Phew! Time to part,

Subroto



WISH I COULD JUST SAY  
A GOODBYE.  
ADHIRAJ KOHLI  
(1999-2020)



share of good times  
of bad times  
experience  
ing has  
ings come to an end?  
a better schooling  
It gave me a  
terminus in life.  
on me to depart from  
my stay in this  
indeed worth it.  
gives in future.

Altogether, Welham was a  
B. A. D.  
I Big Adventureous Dream-like  
experience [Kunal Jeth [02-10]]



vidya  
sioval (2004-2010)

Ever...thine,  
Ever mine,  
Ever Ours.

luv u welham  
Preet Khandelwal  
[01-10]

Thanks to all, students and staff alike, who  
have made my time here so rewarding, enriching  
and fun. It has been an amazing few years.

Aashim Chandel  
Ashu!

4 THERE IS ONLY ONE THING THAT  
I HAVE TO SAY...  
THAT I WILL MISS THE TIME  
SPENT HERE MORE THAN ANYTHING  
ELSE...  
Ajun Gairnd  
08-10



# Interview with Mr. J. Loftin

**Oli:** Sir, Do you think educational institutions should be single sex or co educational?

**Mr. Loftin:** I run a coeducational school and I enjoy it. I see merits in both the systems. But as the headmaster of a coeducational boarding school; I am very pleased with how we are able to develop respect for the other gender in this young lot. The environment is very friendly. It is actually very similar to a small global community.

**Oli:** Sir, since the students coming to your school are from both well off families and not so well off families, there must be certain racial intolerance towards students at the beginning, so how do you deal with these problems?

**Mr. Loftin:** I've never seen such a phobia toward students because of their socio-economic status; the phobia has come at times in our school history with regard to bringing students from different nationalities together, but that has long passed. Now the students are very comfortable. I think the biggest transitions are for the students who are coming into the school to be comfortable around different groups of people.

**Oli:** Is this your first visit to India, Sir?

**Mr. Loftin:** Yes, it is.

**Oli:** How long have you been here?

**Mr. Loftin:** About a week.

**Oli:** Which all schools have you visited so far?

**Mr. Loftin:** Well, I have visited Welham, I have visited Woodstock and I visited a village school outside the Dehradun area. I just wanted to see what the village schools were like.

**Oli:** How was your experience with Welhamites?

**Mr. Loftin:** Welham has been the most impressive school, I have visited in India. The students here are very courteous and they seem very eager to learn. The teachers are doing a beautiful job, nurturing the students and bringing out the student's potential and duties as an individual. You have a very healthy learning environment

**Oli:** Thank you, sir. With the passage of time, the ethos of the school must have gone through a significant change. What was the ethos of your school when it was founded and what is it now?

**Mr. Loftin:** The founder of our school thought that there was a need of other religious expression in that area of the country. He had the courage to try to live up to his higher ideas. Therefore, he went into a hostile environment to establish a school which was strongly resisted by many.

**Oli:** Sir, you are here to fix an exchange programme with. What are the objectives you are looking at?

**Mr. Loftin:** I would like to have exchanges. It will not only to bring the world to our campus but I would also like more of our student body to go out into the world. It is actually for students to go out, learn, and gain a broader perspective that cannot be learnt in a classroom by just reading books and watching videos.

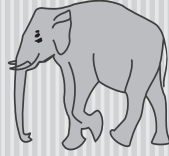
**Oli:** Sir, terrorism is creating a huge impact on the world today. What would you like to comment about that?

**Mr. Loftin:** Well... the best stand that can be taken against terrorism is to bring a lot of people together and overcome their fear of the unknown and fear of one another and to be able to make them share and work together and stay together and understand that basically they are the same people.

**Oli:** Sir, finally what would be your message to the Welhamites?

**Mr. Loftin:** My message is to continue doing what you are doing here, face your own fears, develop confidence in yourself and learn to voice what you are as an individual, your convictions, and your passions. Give expressions to your passions, develop the discipline to be able to effectively express your passions and then you will be happy.

**Oli:** Thank you, Sir



# THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

## WORD WAR Division of States

Since independence, the question of 'Division' has always been trouble for our policy makers. After the death by fasting of the Congress MP Potti Sramalu, PM Jawaharlal Nehru, appointed the States Reorganisation Commission in 1952, which submitted its report in 1955 and formed states on the basis of linguistic identity. The count was 14 then and today after 55 years is, it is 28.

The phrase 'Division of states' gives a picture of formation of two territories that are insular to each other's existence 'Division' is a term that talks of complete separation. But the rationale of division is not separating or building walls but ensuring contribution of even the remotest region to a bigger entity that is India.

Therefore, the idea is not pro 'Division of states' but pro 'Reorganisation of states'.

Reorganisation means the re-structuring of a system for better results, not only in terms of increasing monetary income but also strengthening ties. In the Indian context, reorganisation required is in terms of 'Size'. There are many reasons to support this argument.

The second question is of regional imbalance. Large states tend to overlook certain areas of the state in the allocation of resources. This is clearly visible in the case of Maharashtra where growth is seen only in the region of Mumbai-Pune industrial belt. Andhra Pradesh, is yet another example. During YSR's tenure, out of 59 lakh hectares of land that the 26 irrigation projects were supposed to irrigate, 43 lakh hectares was around coastal Andhra and only 16 lakh hectare around the desperate Telangana region. The 'logic' behind such allocations is that growth will spread to other regions. But as we can see very clearly that it hasn't happened because if it had, we would not have seen violent protests in Telangana.

This problem does not arise in smaller states, simply because, the area is limited.

Many here would raise the question of the economic viability of a smaller state. Their question is well answered by the performance of our three youngest states, namely, Chattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand. The growth in GSDP {Gross State Domestic Product} has been phenomenal. According to the 11th Plan Commission approved by the National Development Council, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand achieved a growth rate of 9.2%, 11.1% and 8.8% pa as against their target of 6.1%, 6.9% and 6.8% respectively. Bihar too, after being reorganised has turned out to be the second fastest growing state of the country. This has been possible, only because of the formation of small states. A smaller state with a not so large population allows direct contact to develop between the people and the administration. It is now easier for people to voice their opinion, seek redressal and avail of public resources, thereby bolstering progress. Such individualized attention aids the administrators in quick and efficient implementation of policies and in maintaining law and order. This establishes an organised and structured society whose progressive environment promotes economic growth, paving the path for economic development and hence leading to welfare, the ultimate aim of any country.

People today are looking for a change, a change for the better, 'Reorganisation' is the key to this change. The process has just started with a small green flag to Telangana, but we have miles to go.

*SHRIYAM GUPTA*

## Against

It took, 6 political parties, 3 mass movements and a century of blood bath to unite a land of 565 princely states and 8 British Indian provinces, it took Potti Sramalu's death, after a fast to tear apart India as we know it.

The Telangana Rashtra Samiti (Andhras) has its paws over Telangana. The Vidharba Jan Andolan Samiti (Maharashtra) is roaring for Vidarbha. The elephant in UP (BSP) is trumpeting Bundelkhand, Harit Pradesh and Poorvanchal. An opportunist Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) is parroting Gorkhaland. Tribal activists of Madhya Pradesh are shouting for a separate Gondwana. Bodos of erstwhile Assam are uniting to table a Bodoland. Work for a separate Mahakoshal out of Orissa is on the move. The leaders backing statehood are highlighting the paucity of economic development and representation of ethnic minorities. Here are issues, which will remain unresolved even after sub-division of states. How is then a new Telangana, Vidarbha, Poorvanchal... going to make any difference to the lives of these ethnic minorities?

On top of this, the cost of establishing and maintaining the new temporary executives will further fillip the drain of wealth, considering the magnum Rs. 4 crore required just to maintain the office of a governor, per year. Imagine the resources needed to first establish and then maintain a totally new state legislature. Moreover, why do we need another set of systems and its manipulators? Creation of small states on the basis of administration 'may' be considered necessary for the sake of faster growth, smooth administration,

quicker execution of policy framed by the government and the monitoring of the plans and policy executed at the ground level. But what is the guarantee that small states will function properly and there will be all round development? There are still many states like Goa, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Mizoram, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh, where no sign of development is visible because the entire energy is lost in a change of government. What is the guarantee that 'leaders' like Madhu Koda will not play with government funds and become owners of property worth Rs. 4,000 crore in just 2 years of their regime? Water facilities are not yet available in the rural heartlands. Electricity is scantily distributed. Farmer suicides are rampant. Equity is just a utopian phenomenon. It stuns me to know that there are government funds amounting to Rs. 2,000-3,000 crore for the 'beautification' of parks, but nothing to improve the basic amenities of the poverty-stricken "aam aadmi".

As far as smooth functioning, monitoring of policies and real development is concerned, we already have a reliable set up in place called the district administration. Some hold the opinion that states like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bihar are too big to work efficiently. Given this assumption, even the Union should bifurcate. On the contrary, the entire nation is divided into districts, each encompassing a uniform population. To monitor 3-4 districts, there is the office of the commissioner and then comes the state administration. Similar structures are already built by our constitution makers and forefathers for the police department as also for judiciary, to ensure quality functioning. The grass-root policy implementation is carried out with the help of this bureaucratic machinery. Latches are in place, yet what this administrative doorway lacks is 'bolts'. Our systems have failed to a certain extent as they were short of supervisions and safeguards. Corruption is the single biggest challenge India faces today. Various welfare schemes like NREGA and RTE have reached the execution stages. Bills like the recent Women's Quota and Right to Food are gradually going through the

legislative phase. No matter how path breaking these projects appear to be on paper, results matter more than plans. For efficient execution of policies, efficient monitoring is of paramount importance. This story is not wound around political scams. The matter of concern here is much broader, much greater, it is about our 'rights'.

The road to a NEW DIVIDE leads to imposition of strikes, vandalism of office buildings, sabotaging of 'public' property, abandonment of government work, halting of economic activity and monetary damages running into millions of rupees. In the end, we are more divided. Whom are we holding to ransom, Our own nation? At this hour, what is needed is not a 10-day yatra, acclaiming new states (Telangana). India longs for assemblies of its people championing social audits, not transmuting an educational institution into a sight of burning effigies.

Pranab Mukherjee's affirmative "promise" has apparently turned the wager for pro-Telangana campaigners. Let us suppose, the movement accomplishes its goal and a separate state of Telangana is carved out of Andhra Pradesh, how is the government going to avoid further demands for statehood (as what happened in 1956). The aspirants of a dream Gorkhaland, Vidarbha, Mahakoshal... will intensify their strategies to further break up this union on ethnic lines. In 1956, the makers of independent India divided the country into states on linguistic lines. After 54 years of re-organisation, why are we corroding the fundamental principles of nation building. Instead of unifying as one people, why are we veiling the failure of state governments with the cloth of statehood? Mother India was cut into two in 1947 (partition) after being diagnosed with religious intolerance. She was later segmented on linguistic lines. Today her children are still in satiated with the pre-existing differences. Ethnic loyalty is being preferred over peaceful unity. The need of the hour for Indians is to be Indians first, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil... later.

**Abhineet Kanodia**

## On Valentine's Day

*Ester Howland, the woman who produced the first commercial American Valentine cards in the 1840s, sold a then mind-boggling \$ 50,000 worth of cards during her first year of business.*

*In a year, apart from the millions and billions of Valentine's day cards, millions of chocolates and bouquets are purchased by men for their Valentine`s. 25% of all cards sent in a year are Valentine's.*

*What is it about this day that makes it so special? Why is it that the majority of cards and gifts sent annually are on this day? It is neither a national holiday nor an official one-then why is it still celebrated more than these holidays?*

*The truth about how Valentine's day came into existence is not clear but there are some theories that give us a hint as to how this day came into being.*

*Let's go back to ancient Rome, 270 AD, the home of St. Valentine. Most people believed that St. Valentine was a priest who attracted the ire of Roman Emperor Claudis 2 also known as (Claudis the cruel) in 270 AD.*

*According to legend, Claudis 2 had prohibited marriage for young men, claiming that bachelors made better soldiers. Valentine continued to secretly performed marriage ceremonies but was eventually apprehended by the Romans and put to death on 14 February 270 AD.*

*According to a second legend, Valentine who had been imprisoned by Claudis 2, fell in love with the jailer's daughter. When the jailer found out about this, he ordered his men to put Valentine to death. Before he was executed, it is said, he sent a letter to his love signed "From your Valentine".*

*Here the phrase "Will you be my Valentine?"*

*I end with a quote given to me by one of my friends-"Love, like all the best things in life is unexpected. You cannot force yourself to fall in love. Love happens by itself, if it has to."*

*"Trip over love and you can get up, fall in love and*

*You fall forever."*

**Shivam Khanna**



# This Year does not come back yearly

**In the first issue of the Oliphant for the year, it is quite a cliché to find a write up on the New Year. However, I still take the risk of wishing you all a Happy New Year, yet again.**

In a sceptical mood one day, I wondered why, despite knowing the periodic pattern of 'New Years', we consider every year a new beginning. Just like every year, this year too will pass, and a new year will come around again. Why, then, do we mark out this annual event as a mega occasion every time it arrives? For almost every Welhamite, New Year is 'an excuse for a party'. But, apart from the celebration bit of a New Year, somewhere down the line, I feel that a New Year does mark a significant difference in our lives. We look forward to a change in the way we have been. Our aspirations and hopes reach a new level as we look back at the last year. We have matured through experiences that touched us. And, we hope not to have to meet up with some of the events that have been a regular part of our lives the year before.

Just like every year, this year, too, is expected to be one of the best years in Welham. I look into some developments that can actually carve this year out as the most exciting and enriching one yet. The following this year will either be responsible for leaving an impact, to be remembered with pride in the long run, or give us a reason to feel sorry.

Taking the lead - This year's Class 12 has the highest number of D.C's to its name, but they find these D.C's, Dynamic Challenges. There are several reasons

that have compelled the students to look up to them in a positive manner. Under the decisive reign of Abhineet Kanodia and his team, the prospects of the school seem encouraging. By the end of this year, it will be evident if their aim to make this year, and their batch, a memorable one has been accurate and in the right direction.

It's 'dribble-dribble' before sunrise- The captain says that after a 100% win rate, 'It's the most hyped team in town this year'. And so, for the first time, the team holds something more than just basketballs and prizes. This time it is more about the Welham Spirit. It is about honour. Can the team meet all the expectations that weigh upon their shoulders? The odds favour our team to lift the Afzal Khan for the third consecutive time, but the final scorecard is yet to be filled as the year progresses.

A heart and a soul-Last year, the school emotionally remembered a very close colleague, YC. Another sad incident that has touched our hearts this year was the extremely shocking news of Aditya Raj's demise. Today, when he is no more in our midst, I recall him as the person who once used to write secret letters from the back of the class, with my assistance. I realize that I had been blinded to his real value till now. Living as a carefree teenager, within the protective walls of Welham, we have been hit with a strong dose of reality. This year, 'The Welhamite' would surely look deep into his heart, and realise the heart-wrench behind a single loss, something he has never been exposed to before.

We have no limits in reaching out- The intention behind the outreach programme is not to seek publicity for us as a socially conscious school. In Welham, we truly believe in the fact that there is a greater joy in giving than in receiving. Our efforts in reaching out to the less privileged were seen last year in the hard work put into Jaidwar, the village we have adopted, and the services provided to the Musahar community in Bihar. Last year's determination is surely going to give us the inspiration to go on reaching out, not because it is a part of our curriculum; we accept that a world very different from ours exists which yet, finds reasons to smile.

Swine flu might have not affected us directly, but its impact was felt in a large way, hampering most of last year's events. The school will no doubt take up from where it left it last year- take in uncertainties in its stride and face them head on. 2010 is going to be a venture into the same jungle just like every year, but the anxiety lies in the fact that we have our own way to the other side of this jungle. We will either tread on the routes frayed by our previous travellers, or mark a unique path of our own, leaving behind a legacy never to be forgotten.

Wishing again, A Happy New Year

*Yuvraj Goswami, 626/ X-B*

## THOSE ONES

"One is all, all is one"-Mr. Loftin

While talking to Mrs. Chandel, Vishal Singh said, " Talking back to a teacher is not called arguing, its called freedom of speech."(Ours is a democratic country)

In Mrs. Patankar`s class, Akshat Jain, " Nobody becomes blind by looking at other people`s point of view."

"There is a gigantic difference between a human being and being human"-Jaskunwar

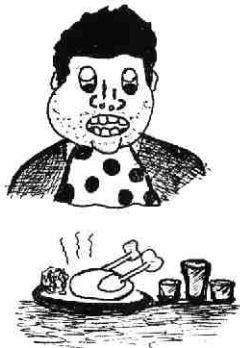
" Even though I might be unwell, I can still shout."- AT

"There is a difference between ego and self -respect. I respect myself."-Arikesh Jung

"Don't get pushed into a decision"-Mr Dev Lahiri.

## WELHMMM...

THREE  
STAGES  
OF A  
PREFECT

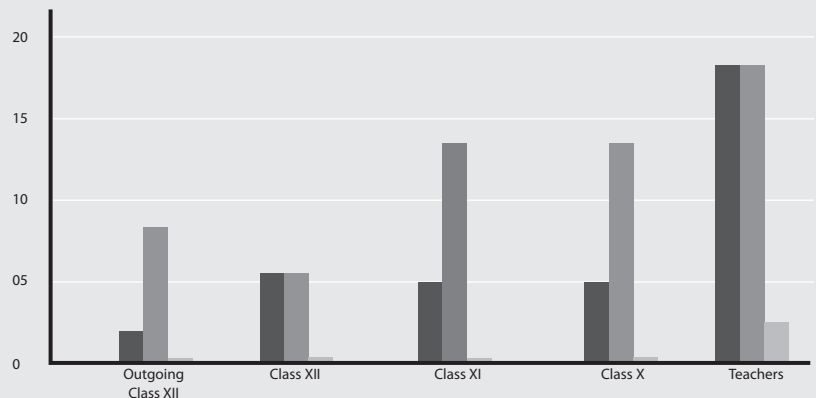


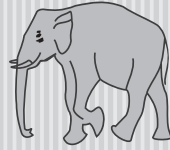
## OLIPOLL

**Do you believe that the division of states is beneficial for the country`s growth.**

	YES	NO	CAN'T SAY
Outgoing CLASS XII	02	08	0
CLASS XII	06	06	0
CLASS XI	05	13	0
CLASS X	05	13	0
Teachers	17	17	2

■ YES ■ NO ■ CAN'T SAY





# LASAGNE

## LAMPOON

There is a scarily miniscule difference between "real" life and "reel" life: that of the inter-changing of the vowels 'a' and 'e'. It is amazing how the character that a script-writer forms in his head in one corner of the world is so similar to a human being residing in our very own backyard, both in terms of physical appearance and style. Through this Lampon, Oli highlights such similarities that have been investigated, analyzed and conclusively proved by our dedicated reporters. {no offence} To start with...

### **Viru Sahastrabuddhe (3 Idiots) and Mr. Dev Lahiri (Duh!?)**

#### **Viru Sahastrabuddhe (Virus)**

A die-hard head of the fictional ICE, this man has morals high on his list, closely followed by a strict sense of discipline. A person who makes sure that no one is ahead of him, be it on the road or having the best-shaven face. Popularly known as 'Virus', a name that has multiple meanings, Viru Sahastrabuddhe sure knows how to inspire people with his words.

"Life is a race, if you don't run fast; you'll be like a broken anda."

#### **Mr. Dev Lahiri (DL)**

A man who needs no introduction, but will be introduced anyway: Mr. Dev Lahiri is also a die-hard head of the anything-but-fictional Welham Boys School. He too has morals high on his list, and has a rather... "OVER" strong sense of discipline, (most Welhamites will confirm that). Popularly known as DL, Mr. Dev Lahiri is one of the most inspiring public speakers that one can come across in his life.

"All that you people want are outings, buntikkis, and (in an over-exaggerated tone of awe) Butter Chicken."

#### **Borat (Borat: Cultural Learning for the Make Benefit of the Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan) and Mr. Satyendra Mishra (The good old Chemistry "bond"er)**

##### **Borat**

This gullible character from the international blockbuster of 2006 has won the hearts of many (not to mention, made many lose their hearts as well). The mere sight of Borat makes one roll with laughter, courtesy his brilliant make-up. The most hilarious part of Borat is his irresistible sense of humour and his awe-inspiring Kazakh accent. His life goes out of sync after he sees Pamela Anderson on TV and wants to marry her.

"I er... wants to marry Paamela... er... Kazakhi style."

##### **Mr. Satyendra Mishra**

Appearance-wise, SM looks just like Borat (Oops! Borat looks just like SM, I meant!). In fact, the Separated at Birth of the month could go to Borat and SM. His style of walking, his style of talking, his mind-blowing moustache, are all totally Borat! In fact, one would have hardly been

able to distinguish between them if SM had taken up the role of Borat in Borat...! He is the good old chemistry "bond"er, and his unknown "bond" with Borat is what has earned him this one paragraph in the Oli Lampon this month. SM, keep going the way you are going... it's great! Go Borat!

"You buldy (bloody) burrger (bugger)!"

#### **Tulsi (Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi) and Indrani Lahiri (Think! Think! Think!)**

##### **Tulsi**

Who doesn't know Tulsi? With that perfectly combed hair, and those teardrops rolling down her face at the smallest of emotional circumstances, that happy smile, that happy cry that she's so good at giving, and those emotional but inspirational dialogues of hers... who doesn't know Tulsi? A real-life politician, Tulsi or Smriti, her real name, is very rightly pointed out to be the IL of her own surroundings. The "true Bharatiya naari".

"Ghar ghar nahin, mandir hota hai."

##### **Indrani Lahiri (IL)**

The Tulsi of this ghar, IL can easily be mistaken for Tulsi's sister! Appearance-wise, IL looks just like Tulsi (Oops! Again... TULSI looks just like IL!). A little bit of a politician herself, a comparison on this front is justified. Known for her inspirational speeches (emotions automatically find their way in these), and her "anything-but-witty" dialogues, her facial expressions are something to watch out for. The true Tulsi of Welham, Welham Newz proved it.

"If school is so bad, then why are you here? Leave!"



**Allen (The Hangover)  
and Dr. Bhandari  
(Maths..Maths..Maths..Maths..MMMM  
M)**

**Allen**

The favourite of all other Hangover characters, Allen easily wins your heart and smile. The craziest of the four, he is the one who ends up leaving a mark. What makes him great, other than his character, is his awe(ful/some) beard, and his mind-blowing hairstyle. Known for his hilarious one-liners, a crazy sense of humour and clothing, Allen is easily one of the best comedy characters to have been created in Hollywood.

"I mean... Caesar really didn't live here, did he?"

**Dr. Bhandari**

The Allen of the mathematical Hangover of our school, his hairstyle, beard and height are Allen all the way. Again, he is Allen when it comes to the side-splitting one-liners and his sense of humour, which, AGAIN, is Allen-ish, and exactly why it is great. He is the calmest volcano on this continent! Another commonality is that he is the ultimate favourite of all other Hangover characters, which include Mr.

Srikant, Mr. Dhingra and Mr. Tripathi.

"Maths... she's my girlfriend!"

**Jigsaw (Saw) and AT (Eco)**

**Jigsaw**

The psychotic mass-murderer of the (not so) blockbuster Saw series, torturing people and teaching people the value of a life is the job of this man. Known for his words full of wisdom, he's still a feared character in the world of reels, since no one knows when they'll end up in Jigsaw's hands, and be ready to face their ultimate doom. The mere sight of Jigsaw causes an irregular heartbeat. All words and reasons to avoid him, no matter how logical, are worthless.

"I'm here to play a game."

**Aseem Tripathi (AT)**

The psychological, if not psychotic, mass-(ok, not MURDERER) of the senior school, torturing students and teaching them the value of a life is this great man's job. AT is known for his valuable words of wisdom, and yet, ironically, he is the most feared man in this campus, for the mere reason that he catches hold of any and everyone who walks by and subjects him to his advice. It is rumoured that AT gave the Prefects a taste of his third degree torture

on their first day in office. No wonder you never see him at the high table...Beware "Mango people".

"Even if the Principal of Welham Boys School has called you, you tell him it's AT's class."

**All that has been highlighted above is based on FACTS, NOT lies, and FULLY INTENDED to make the school see not which is right in front of their eyes. The similarities are purely NON-COINCIDENTAL, and, of course, (DON'T) aim to cause any form of hurt and have no intention of offending anyone. If we did, you may catch hold of this lampoonist and throttle him. Till you've read this, signing off. NEED TO SURVIVE!**

*Jaskunwar Kohli, XII-H*

# RAZZMATAZZ

- Mr.Prashant Arora was not even aware of the "crisis" in Welham Newz . That's being completely "in charge".
- Rachit Goyal has finally received a marriage proposal. It is rumoured that his latest love is the princess of the "Meena" community.

## WHAT`S IN

Dogs  
Prefects` Box  
Satyender Pal  
English Lab  
Cell Phones  
Fitness Programme

## WHAT`S OUT

Guards  
Suggestion Box  
Mr. Khaira  
IT Lab  
Phone Booth  
P.T.

# OLI'S BELIEVE IT OR ELSE

- Lead Welham` campaign works perfectly.
- Welhamites are health conscious.
- Yuvraj Goswami is not interested in going to Gym.
- Mr.Kuqsal has been heard saying "I don't need sleep".

# Terror of the Month

## "The Hounds of the Lahiri's"

10:30p.m. A pitch-dark night. Two boys are walking briskly along the road-the skating rink to be precise. The air is calm and chilly. Both of them are walking fast, lest a guard sees them. But no, no guard sees them. Instead, they hear a loud bark, which pierces the silence of the night like a shot from a Glock Pistol. The boys leap up in fright, then quickly recovering from the shock, they run to the nearest safe haven, Shikhar Hostel. That night was one which those two boys will remember for a long time to come. In truth, the fact those two boys did not know was that that night was the first night that three of the nine fierce and hungry guard dogs were patrolling the campus. Those three dogs were just some of the dogs that now roam around the campus on a regular basis, tackling all those who dare to try and cross their path either trying to break bounds or roaming around at (seemingly unethical) late hours.

The pack consists of nine dogs. Out of these, four dogs are Belgian shepherds, one is a Rottweiler, three are German shepherds, and the last one is a Caucasian Shepherd. The dogs' names are Mui, Alpha, Hakan, Paris Hilton, Xena, Taika, Zulu, Clyde and last but certainly not the least, Al. Out of these nine dogs, you will probably have seen the three, Al, Alpha and Hakan.

First up, Al. A Rottweiler, he is black and medium sized and the most active of the three. Alpha, is a brownish Belgian Shepherd. He is very large in size, but is good-natured. The third, and most dangerous dog, Hakan, is also a Belgian Shepherd. What he loves to do the most is attack, attack and attack! Of the nine dogs, four of them, Alpha, Mui, Paris and Tyka are highly capable of sniffing and following scents. You will probably never have seen

more than four of the dogs at one time. This is because there never are more than four of them on duty at one time! All nine of them take turns to patrol the campus grounds, but do not worry, for even if you have an unexpected encounter with them, they won't be able to harm you, as they are always on a leash! Another misconception about these dogs is that they are ferocious, and will bite anyone who dares to come near them. In fact, they are not ferocious at all, and have been trained not to bite unless their owner, Mr. Lahiri, is being threatened (which is never the case).

The dogs' diet consists of one large bowlful

of meat and a meal consisting of eggs and fresh milk at around 11 in the morning. This food provides wholesome nutrition to the dogs, it gives them excellent strength and stamina and also the capability to roam around the campus at late hours like Pad foot, letting no-one know about their whereabouts, and not falling asleep at all.

The introduction of guard dogs on the campus is (indirectly) beneficial to the students, even though they do not realize it. These guard dogs prevent us from terrorizing the teachers and the principal with our antics! Even though these dogs do not bite, do not make a mistake of trying the old 'Kootchie Koo, good doggie' trick on them! That will only result in your waking up in the infirmary with half a thumb, or perhaps no finger at all! The Introduction of these guard dogs should therefore be taken in a much more positive way, for who knows, one day, we may get much closer to them than we ever expected to be!

*Akul Gurtu 8-A*



# THROUGH THE KEYHOLE...



- **Gaurav Dwivedi:** Hey, name me the seven sisters of East India?
- **Akul Gurtu:** Ya, I know Sikkim...no wait it's the brother!
- **Shravan Vij :** (on the day of the investiture ceremony) Was it the brigadier who came from the Army?
- **Siddharth Thard to Anmol:** Mujhe apne hair ka haircut katana hai.
- **Mrs. M Chandel:** What did you do during holidays?
- **Nandan:** I swam the water.
- **Abdul Manan** in his room "Kashmir's water is very wet." [dude 'cold!]
- **Sahil Arora** to Sheikh Burhan  
**Sahil:** "Our boards will finish on 31st March."  
**Burhan:** "So, you will be free on the 32nd ."
- **Keshav Bhartia to a junior:** "Bhaiya! Give me a favour" [Height of politeness!]
- **Yash Agarwal answering Mrs. Sharma's** question on how to enhance food production "Ma'am, we can use HIV seeds" [HYV!!!]

# EVER WONDER WHY...

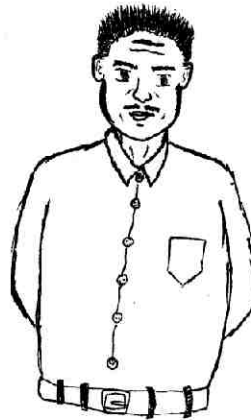
- Rachit always thinks about the dual aspect of everything!
- Chetan is practicing shotput across the wall
- Welhamites are not ready to play the inter house cricket matches.
- Kishlay Jha is reading all the books recommended by TR.....
- 'Splitsvilla' is leaving behind 'Roadies' in terms of viewers in Welham.
- Gaurav Dwivedi does not like to get announcements made for hockey practices.
- Narayan is seen hanging around with Ninethies. (Did someone see Shrey Singhal?)
- Mr. Prashant Arora is the latest private detective on campus.
- Mr. Lakshman Bhandari never changes his hair style.
- Welhamites are found carrying biscuits at night.

# Separated at birth

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Shivam Garg                      | Mr.Kuqsal.                   |
| Rishabh Dhall                    | Shaggy (Scooby Doo Series)   |
| Chaitanya Agarwal                | John Casey                   |
| Mr.Srikant                       | A.C.P Pradymun(C.I.D series) |
| Shivang Juneja and Aneesh Sharma | Asterix and Obelix           |
| Kunwar Lauren                    | Jimi Hendrix                 |
| Prashant Arora                   | Humpty Dumpty                |
| Narayan Dev                      | Vikram Pillay                |
| Rachit Goel                      | Skeleton (the Bio Lab.)      |
| Tushar Singh                     | Akash Godara                 |



# Dudes of the Month...



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From one of the most disciplined institutions of India, to 'lafanga' land, from a place where being on time is Hobson's choice to a land where they say "what's the hurry...you can always be late"....things are certainly not the same for them...We are talking about one of the latest additions that the school has seen, The Wardens. This group of "fabulous four", more famously known as `The Fab Four` are changing Welham. Let us see how!

The Cauverites are really happy as the "Siberian Cap-Mr. Paul" is always there to show them around whenever they get lost. He is teaching them some very valuable lessons. Be it early morning walks or midnight studies, Cauverites are on high alert as he is always keeping an eye on them. This young (did someone mention 'dye' or 'mehandi') ex-army man can challenge Edward Cullen as people have not seen him sleeping even once ever since he joined Welham.

Now let's go to 'Greater Heights' Pradeep Kumar a.k.a. Gulshan, cares a lot about the tea or the kids or.... well, it's difficult to say which. This gentleman truly knows the essence of music in a person's life (did

someone say Chinese speakers and iPods). Rumour has it that his love for Chinese goods made him leave the Indian army.

The Jamunaites are missing Mrs. Hannah's piercing voice. But here, another family "wala" has taken over. He is the only member of the fabulous four whose family resides on campus. What you can make out when you see this guy is that he is soft spoken. He is usually seen taking a walk with his dear wife. A good role model to have because he is always on time. According to many Jamunaites, "He is the best".

Last but not the least, the man of the house. A very easy going and fun loving character - Mr. S.P. Sharma. A daredevil to the core, Mr.Sharma has served in the defence forces of the country. He has not been able to get over his army days, therefore, the brigadier (well, we are talking about the House Captain) is always on his toes. Therefore, Suspension has become Court Martial for Krishnaites. He believes in the dignity of "manual" labour. In addition to this, he is very particular about 'stream lining'; the left stream should go left and so is true about the right. He says, "You should aim for the centre".

Regardless of all the things said about them, they are "a few good men", who are always there to help you and do anything that comes under their jurisdiction. Oli salutes your hardwork.



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