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The Elephant

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

THINK ABOUT IT...

'We carry within us the wonders we seek without us' - Sir Thomas Browne

EDITORIAL

'Shall I compare thee to a summers dream?'

These words have been resonating in my ears ever since I recited the whole sonnet, sonnet 18, during the morning assembly on Shakespeare's 451st birth anniversary. So, what was so special in a summers dream that led Shakespeare to compare his dearest friend to it? It feels so brilliant as I recite these words over and over again as I truly feel that there is some kind of power that seeps into my body as the words escape my mouth. There was something different that Shakespeare noticed in the summer he has talked about in the lines and this clearly leaves the floor open for more assumptions. What is so special in a 'summer dream'? Well, for me it is the summer vacations that give me scope of improving on things I need to.

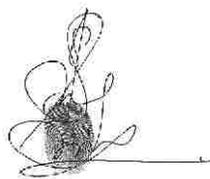
Dear Readers, summer holidays have finally approached and it is time you think of your own 'Summer Dreams'. It is time we think of how to use our time efficiently and make the most of it, for we have all faced some common fiascos that bother us later in our lives. Just imagine the moment when you see the smiling faces of your family as they welcome you in your homes and this perhaps is the beauty of vacations. We end up treasuring the right things such as affection for our families and care for our precious time.

The time has finally arrived when all the restrictions that bother us in school are removed from our shoulders and we are set free to continue with our true dreams but there still is something that, at times, keeps us from following our dreams and I shall call it LAZINESS. So, dear readers, run on that treadmill if you have planned

to stay fit, write your hearts out if you have planned to write, gouge out your eyes on your books if you have planned to study for better grades (sciencies, please don't take this one too seriously) but don't let your laziness stop you from achieving your dreams.

This edition is really close to my heart for various reasons. Well, one reason could be that it has come out very near to my birth day but there is something else that was special in taking out this edition. It was the work of my team, my board members that impressed me the most. All of them have worked very efficiently for this edition and I feel lucky to have each one of them. With my team we have collaborated the most humorous jokes as part of Lasagna for this edition. We have also included a Holiday Special as part of Lampoon which I am sure each one of you will enjoy reading. The Ringside view showers light upon the victory of Welham Boys' at various tournaments ranging from Skating to Basketball and also talks about the success of the Hockey Team.

As for you readers, think about your summer dream again and make sure that you fulfil each one of your dreams and uphold the honour and good name of this our school.



Sheikh Safwan Fayz
Editor-in-chief

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RINGSIDE VIEW

It has turned out to be an exciting month for sports enthusiasts at Welham. In the global arena, Chelsea and Juventus have already secured their respective league titles. In the much awaited fight of the decade, Floyd Mayweather trumped Manny Pacquiao by a unanimous decision. The Indian Premier league which kicked off on 8th April has got the hearts of all cricket fans running. The heat of sports in school however is much higher. This term offers the perfect chance for a sportsperson to showcase his talent and a Welhamite never misses out on such opportunities.

The much awaited basketball season had a disappointing start due to the semifinal defeat in the Win Mumby Basketball Tournament at Woodstock School, Mussorie against the host with a score line of 50-35. However the tables did turn in the Golden Jubilee Basketball Tournament, held from 26th-29th April at WBS, where our team was deservedly crowned champions. Standing in our path to glory again was the Woodstock school. This time though, our team relentlessly hunted the tigers and won the finals 74-48. **Vinay Prakash** of grade X was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the tournament. The team now awaits the finals of the U-18 Districts against the Asian School and the All India Afzal Khan Basketball Tournament held at the Doon School. Oli wishes them the luck and hopes that the team manages to retain all the trophies this year too.

The 11th S. Kandhari Memorial Hockey tournament began on 30th April. The tournament lasted four days and Welham A Team dazzled everyone with their performance. The team reached the finals by defeating RIMC, Dehradun in an intense penalty shootout which the hosts won 4-3. The team unfortunately lost in the finals to the brilliance of Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai, 5-1. **Aditya Raj**



Parth Babbar at his best

Welham Boys' playing against MNSS Rai in the finals of S. Kandhari Memorial Hokey Tournament

Pahwa of grade XI was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament and **Vikram Vardhan Singh** received the award for the Best Attacker. The team will now go off to Mussorie for the David Inglis Hockey tournament held at Wynberg Allen, Mussorie. Oli wishes them luck and hopes that they bring laurels to the school.

In other arenas, the Skating team participated in the Chroni Skating tournament held on 26th April. The team did us proud by winning 26 gold medals out of a total tally of 38. Also, Arpit Bhalla and Bhavesh Agarwal stood runners-up in the doubles category in the Selaqui Tennis Tournament and were awarded a cash prize of Rs. 5000.

On 1st May, captains for various sports were announced. Oli would like to congratulate the following for their appointments:

Athletics - **Abhimanyu Singh Thaklur**
 Basketball - **Prithvi Agarwal**
 Hockey - **Suryansh Singh Suryavanshi**
 Soccer - **Parth Babbar**
 Cricket - **Umair Wani**
 Badminton - **Aishwarya Soni**
 Tennis - **Arpit Bhalla**
 Table Tennis - **Akash Harlalka**
 Squash - **Aviral Agarwal**

Shooting - **Yash Goel**
 Gym - **Pranjal Agarwal**
 Swimming - **Aditya Agarwal**
 Volleyball - **Mukul Panwar**
 Chess - **Abhiraj Singh**

The end of this term signals the start of the football season in the next term. The team will leave for the U-14 and the U-17 IPSC to be held at the Millennium School, Indore. We hope that they bring back the past glory.

Signing Off!

-Vikram Vardhan Singh
 XI-Sc



Prithvi Agarwal giving the vote of thanks at the All India 29th Golden Jubilee Basketball Tournament

MOVIE REVIEW



Title Avengers- Age of Ultron
Director Joss Whedon
CAST Robert Downey Jr., Mark Ruffalo, Chris Hemsworth, Jeremy Renner, Scarlet Johansson, Chris Evans, Samuel. L. Jackson
Genre Action
Rating 7/10

We all desperately await Marvel movies but this movie has been on our check list ever since the sequel got announced. The Marvel Universe has never failed to amaze us with thrilling action sequences in their productions. Although not as good as the first part, Age of Ultron has an exhilarating story line that keeps you glued to the screen.

The picture opens with a bang, as the avengers- Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hulk, Hawkeye and Black Widow attempt to snatch Loki's scepter from HYDRA Leader Baron Strucker. The sequence also introduces two striking 'enhanced' beings to the Marvel screen universe, the Maximoff twins- The dream weaving Scarlet witch of Elizabeth Olsen and hyper speed Quick Silver of Aaron Taylor Johnson.

Here's the movie's crux : thoroughly shaken by the extra terrestrial invasion of the first avengers, Stark tells Dr. Bruce

Banner A.K.A. Hulk that he is going to create an artificial intelligence from the program encrypted in Loki's scepter to act as an 'iron shield' for the world. Unfortunately for Stark this program can't quite tell the difference between saving and destroying humanity and thus we are introduced to Ultron (Voice over by James Spader) - a 'Peace in our time' misfire intent on destroying the human race.

Age of Ultron, to my surprise has a romantic touch to it too. Scarlet Johansson who nearly somersaulted away with the first avengers as the Black Widow is forced into a 'Beauty and The Beast' relationship with the Hulk and this makes the film rather mushy.

The plot of the film is far too similar to that of the first part. For example, it had Avengers versus Avengers fight sequence early in the film, the avengers 'get their arse kicked segment' in the

middle, the 'trickster villain' who seeks to beat the avengers by turning them against each other and destroying the world and the final sequence where they fight against a disposable henchman, some random people and defeat the villain.

Marvel fans want extra characters, extra subplots, jokes that pander to their supposed breadth of knowledge. This film delivers all this to them perfectly.

The fact is that we don't watch Marvel superhero movies for deep story telling or meaningful plots, but for the fun action and witty one-liners. The film was certainly a delight to watch and so I give it a solid 7/10.

-Pranjal Agrawal
XII-C

MUSIC REVIEW



Artist
Hozier

Album
Hozier

Genre
Blues, Soul,
R&B, Folk Rock,
Indie Rock

Rating
8.4/10

Release date:
19 September, 2014

A few months ago, this Irish singer songwriter was little known to the world. But with the hit of his YouTube released song 'Take Me To Church', not only did Andrew Hozier-Byrne's sensual dark voice touch souls, but also his self-named album 'Hozier' gathered recognition in all parts of the world.

With songs like "Someone New", "Sedated" and "From Eden" adding sparkle to the album, this is an album that cannot be missed. Well received by music critics, Hozier was also commercially successful, reaching the top ten positions in Ireland, UK, the United States, Canada, Australia and Denmark. He deftly moves from topic to topic in his debut album and casts light on problems, both personal and public, that are universally shared. The single, "Take Me to Church" focuses on gay rights, while "To Be Alone" pleads for an antidote to rape culture. Less politically

charged songs, like "It Will Come Back" and "Like Real People Do" address the exciting, yet terrifying, range of emotion that inevitably accompanies relationships.

Now that the chirps of the song 'Take Me To Church', which was nominated for Song of the Year at the 57th Annual Grammy Awards in 2015, are fading away, this album still matters to those who truly appreciate music.

Hozier understands how to blend sharp-tongued lyrics seamlessly into a captivating ear catching tune, be it understated or otherwise. The hooks will remain in your ears and the lyrics on your mind. Hozier is a substantial yet incredibly accessible album that will keep you mesmerized when you are down with life. I would like to rate it 8.4 out of 10.

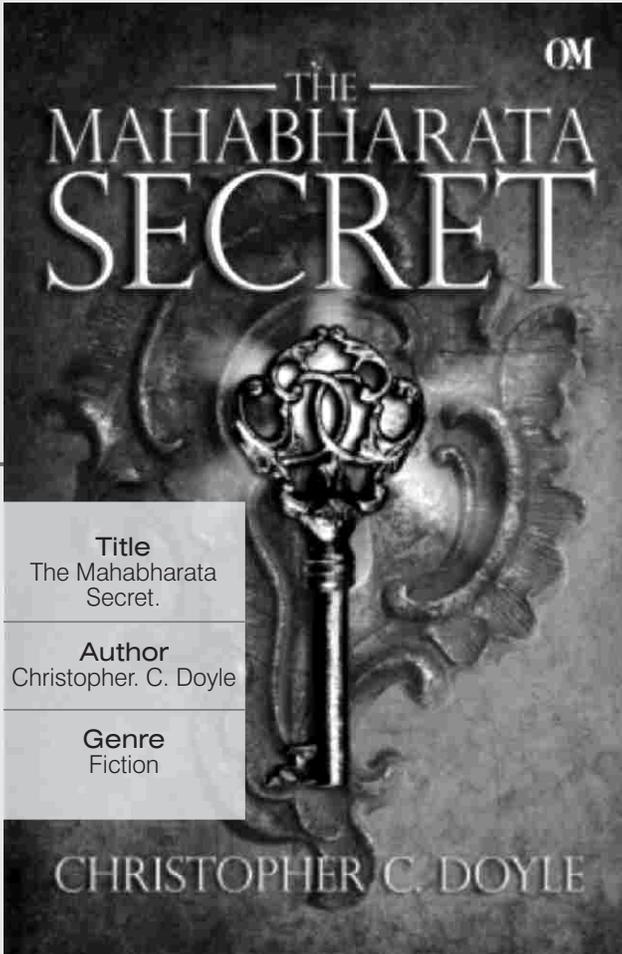
-Aditya Agarwal
XII Comm.

BOOK REVIEW

'Never judge a book by its cover'- Anonymous. I would like to amend a little bit. 'Never judge a book by its cover or name'- Anshuman.

Before beginning my review on this book I would like to make one thing crystal clear. 'Secret organizations have existed long before the development of words like secret or organizations.' Their only purpose of being indentured with the oath of secrecy is the protection of the darkest secrets which are meant to be kept from god itself.

'The nine spoked' wheel symbolizes an organization formed by King Ashoka the great, to bury the lethal secrets of the Mahabharata and the mortal possession of godly weapons and their existence today. In the twenty first century when the last guardian of the secret organization was killed, an anonymous set of emails were sent to his nephew. It briefed him all about the vast history of the organization and was made to take the oath of secrecy which every guardian has to take before joining to guard the secrets of the dark past. The only thing these emails didn't convey were the secrets itself. The purpose of the emails was to assign him a quest to decipher the relics of Ashoka to reveal the secrets so that it



Title The Mahabharata Secret.
Author Christopher. C. Doyle
Genre Fiction

could be protected from other organizations rumored to be formed by a Guardian who went rouge.

This evolves into a fast paced quest where our protagonist along with a cryptographer and his friend, travel across the length and breadth of Northern India, deciphering the relics to find the secrets of the catastrophic weapons which continue to lie dormant, before anyone else does. Christopher Doyle has proved his mettle with his best selling debut to the world of literature. The fiction writer goes further to impress the international reading circle and hence is called 'The Dan Brown of the east' by the New York Times.

I suggest this book to all readers lacking thrill in their lives and also readers who haven't been introduced to books worth a read. This is an exceptionally well written novel but the ending could have been more cohesive, otherwise it is exactly what I would like to read on a winter morning with a hot cup of coffee. Once you start you won't stop.

-Anshuman Agarwal
X-C

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor-in-chief,

I must commend you for taking out the Oliphant regularly. It is good to see this magazine which was defunct for so long return to its former glory. In your last editorial you talked of making the Oliphant a fortnightly like it used to be. I hope that this dream becomes a reality so that we can see more of your brilliant works. My question to you is simple and rather trivial in nature. As you are well aware that the school is engaged in organizing and participating in a variety of events, how do you plan to get good quality articles from the students while they are busy participating in various events? Don't you think that publishing the magazine fortnightly will lead to a compromise on the quality? I'll be looking forward to a reply.

-Mir A`li
XII-Hum

Reply

Dear Mir,

Thank You for bringing out your concerns for the Oliphant. As a matter of fact we do, at times, face problems when it comes to collecting quality articles from the students. There could be many reasons for this such as the increase in the number of events but I must say that this is where the actual learning takes place. It is only when we are able to balance our schedule and give our hundred percent in what little we do that we truly learn.

Also, I know that taking out the Oliphant fortnightly will be a mammoth task but I think we are ready for it and our school deserves a fortnightly edition of the most loved magazine. If we are able to pull this string, then who knows in the coming years the Oliphant will emerge as a weekly newsletter.

Thank You

Sheikh Safwan
Editor-in-chief



ACADEMICS IN THE MODERN WORLD

A random student, if asked about his views on studies in the senior classes, will have only one answer, 'too stressful'. The mere sight of books makes a student's mind go dizzy. He opens a book and starts reading about Mughal emperors and with no intention of doing so, is taken into a strange world where he totally forgets about the emperors and thinks about Batman saving Gotham City. He cannot explain the exact reason as to why this is happening to him. Children of this generation no longer have the kind of interest that the people of past generations had towards studies. This is probably due to the impact of an increasing number of distractions now-a-

days. Children, at the time when they are supposed to be studying, are involved in child labor. They work hard to earn meagre wages to support their families. Even after a lot of efforts by the government to eradicate it, it is still prevalent in our country.

Children are seen using mobile phones at a very early age. They start social networking and devote even lesser time to studies. This has had a big impact on the number of educated people in our country. They must understand that studies are actually not stressful; it is their actions that make them so stressful and uninteresting.

Even the executives of the country have

implemented a lot of policies like the CCE pattern which have made the syllabus very easy, though there is still scope for improvement on that front.

The only way out of this problem is to show a little more interest towards studies, and then the results will show improvement themselves. This will improve the economy of India as more educated people means more income. We must focus on our goals as it will help India develop into a better place to live in.

-Kabir Madan
X-B

THE LESSER KNOWN VU'S

I think I've seen this before. The same bunch of people walking down the Marine Drive. That was a Déjà vu. But, there are more vu's that are not listed under the lesser known vu's or as people call them, the psychological states of mind.

The interesting fact is that there are two other vu's which currently exist but most people are unaware of them. The first one being Jamais vu. There happen to be two instances when Jamais vu is likely to happen. Incessant repetition of a word or deep concentration on anything brings you to the first stage of the very uncommon, Jamais vu. Next, is the

blackout stage or in simple terms the zapped state of mind. In this stage, you are physically present but mentally in a paradise where even the utopian world fails to analyze your fantasies.

Welhamites are the prime victims of Jamais vu. Not particularly 'Welhamites', but 'Welhamites in classrooms' would agree with me on this fact. Something which seemed unprecedented to us earlier is what is the daily routine of our Maths period these days.

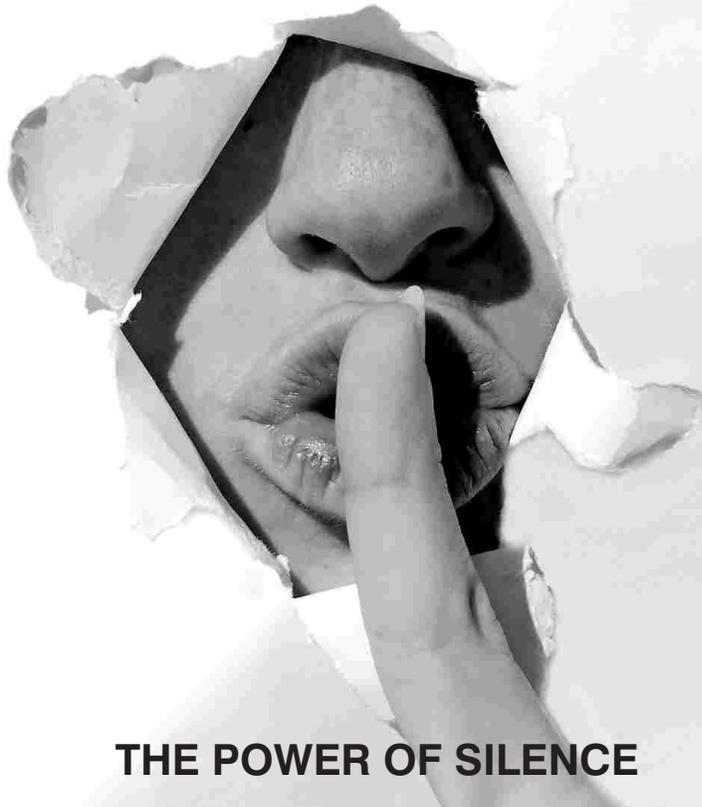
The other vu, better known as Presque vu is what happens to us every now and then. It is that feeling of knowing the thing but failing to remember it. It is ought to happen to people who are well-

versed with particular subjects, but when they are asked about some old material relating to that subject, they go in a completely lost stage where no matter how much they try, they shamelessly fail to remember it.

I hope all the teachers are now "enlightened" with these now known states of the mind of their students while they are teaching and are able to analyze their students in a better way now.

HOPES HIGH!!!!!!!

-Anant Agarwal and Aaditya Dokania
X- A & X-C



THE POWER OF SILENCE

The power of silence; you must wonder how something which does not exist in material proportions holds power, but shockingly or not, it does. Silence is the key to tolerance which in today's world is a necessity if we are to stop chauvinistic ideals from overpowering peace. When mastered, this silence is forced from being abstract towards being materialistic, which will be feared by the most audacious of all. Sooner or later this silence will be considered the best diplomatic solution to major calamitous crises. This enables the silent one to become some one she/he had never contemplated of becoming.

Silence possesses a potential power that radicalism has never been able to seize. It is that abstract power which later modifies into the great power of persuasiveness. Let me explain this notion with an example. Let us take the example of the CEOs of a multinational company. There are two brothers each being the CEO of a multinational company. One brother is like a silent stick whereas the other brother is an

obnoxious mouthed carrot. The stick possesses the power of silence whereas the carrot expresses radicalism through words. The carrot is overwhelming in the beginning but towards the end people lose their expectations from it and hence continue to commit mistakes as they know the only consequence they are going to suffer is admonishment and they are going to escape it easily. Here the stick chooses to maintain low. Another case arises where the stick handles the part of the consequences. As he is materializing his thoughts the people under him will have to stay in shadows with no knowledge about what is waiting on the other end. He would say minimum compared to his brother but express a hundred times more.

This silence is the emblem of control which is another commodity necessary for the making of a good leader and it is there in abundance but we only need the correct lot to find it.

-Raghu Raghav
X-B

EXCHANGE TO INDIA

I thought that an exchange to India, especially to a boarding school would be great learning experience and I am proud to say that Welham Boys' has fulfilled my dreams.

I wasn't happy with the long trip from Australia to get here, since there was a baby crying for the whole 8 hour flight from Sydney to Singapore and then the drive from Delhi to Dehradun was a bit different to an Australian long car trip, due to the constant honking, bumpy roads and the variant 'smells.'

Once arriving at Welham we were taken on a campus tour. We were amazed at how big the school was. Krishna may not be the biggest house, but I really like that we are kind of cut off from the others. Washing our own clothes was something different from what we did back home, but we got the hang of it pretty quickly.

All of the boys at the school are really nice. We were involved in the Earth Day Celebration where we had to improvise British soldiers. We emceed the Baisakhi Festival Celebrations in which our principal Mr. Paul Smart came as a guest and visited for a few days.

The food is better than what we were told by the previous exchange students. The beds took some time to get used to because they were hard to sleep on.

We were also a part of the tutor night outing to Rishikesh but to our disappointment we did not do rafting or get into the water.

The school is similar yet different to our school. Overall my experience so far in Welham has been a great one and has put before me new perspectives of life.

Ethan Honsai
Exchange Student 2015.

WACKY WOODSEATS

As The Whistle Blows

As the whistle blows shrilly,
The children run hilly-billy,
To see the puffing and the panting machines
Famously known as trains.

Soon the long journey will start
When the baggage will be loaded off of the carts
And people will bid their goodbyes
As the train will whistle and fly.

The train glides on the tracks,
Passing through the delightful unknown lands,
And suddenly it stops with a hiss,
And people start to say their hello's - hi's.

The journey is over, but not for the train,
With a whistle it goes on again,
Off in the gloom the train goes,
As people scoff at the smoke.

The train is moving on well-worn tracks,
Never wearied, never tired, nor taken aback,
A gift with more than wheels and coals,
A gift for us that's always on the go.

A superb gift from the British,
To us the Indians,
The railways, which are our source of pride,
Which, throughout the journey is a wonderful guide.
A source of inspiration and fun
For us, the proud Indians!!!

-Chirag Bansal
VII-B

The Jewels Of The Pasha

Once upon a time in Turkey there was a "Pasha" with a very precious belonging, something he kept very close to his heart. The blood diamond. The diamond was as red as blood and it was the most expensive jewel on earth. He always carried it in his necklace. The Pasha was envied throughout his kingdom and by other Pashas because of the diamond. The senior most member of the advisors in the pasha's court always had his eyes on the blood diamond. He dreamt of the day the blood diamond would be around his neck.

The advisor had placed an enormous amount on the scale in change of the diamond but the Pasha was indecisive. The advisor made a plan for this. He gave the Pasha's personal guard a leave. That night the advisor crept into the pasha's room and changed the diamond with a fake one. The advisor saw the Pasha coming and in a hurry he took the real diamond but unfortunately a small fragment of the fake didn't fit in properly. The next day in the court the diamond fell from his necklace and shattered into pieces and the Pasha found out at that very moment that someone has stolen his diamond. The Pasha then started his search for the diamond. Fortunately, he found a piece of saffron colored cloth. The only person who dressed in saffron was the senior advisor. The king then searched for the advisor and EUREKA! He found him. But the king being a generous man forgave him and gave him a last chance.

-Varun Lohia
VI-C

Spring In The Air

Oh! Spring in the air,
We can feel it everywhere
There are bright flowers so rare
That they are not seen anywhere.

Rain is always so irritating,
But still is created by nature and comes with spring.
You can feel happiness all around
And flowers blooming from the ground.

Ah! This is spring I see,
Marching towards me as close as it can be
It is some real fun
To have so close to me

I thank you oh God
For this creation so good
With so many colourful things
And this season of spring.

-Rudransh Agarwal
V-A



The Oli 24 X 7

WELHAM NOW

- The Earth Day Conference was held at Welham Boys' School on the 21st and 22nd of April. The theme of the conference was 'Water for Health'.
- A delegation of 14 students along with **Mr. Pushpendar Dabral** attended the Sanskriti MUN from the 23rd of April to the 25th of April. **Aditya Agarwal** of grade XII was adjudged as the best delegate in his committee. **Aditya Dokania** of grade X and **Abhay Singh Dhillon** of grade IX also won a verbal recommendation in their committee.
- The Welham Basketball Team participated in the Win Mumby Basketball tournament held at the Woodstock School from the 23rd to the 25th of April. The school team was beaten by the home side in the Semi-Finals.
- On 24th of April **Mr. Manpreet Badal**, an ex-Welhamite, gave a talk to the school on leadership qualities.
- Welham Boys' School hosted the prestigious All India Golden Jubilee Basketball Tournament from the 25th of April to the 28th of April. The home team won the tournament yet again and **Vinay Prakash** was declared the most valuable player of the tournament.
- On the 30th of April the Inter-house Ramanujan Quiz was held for the middle school. Ganga House emerged victorious.
- The S. Kandhari Memorial Hockey tournament began on the 30th of April at Welham Boys' School. Welham Boys' finished runners up to MNSS, Rai. **Aditya Raj Pahwa** was adjudged the Most Valuable Player and **Vikram Vardhan Singh** was adjudged the Best Attacker.
- On 2nd May Ms Ratna Veera addressed the school on the issue of gender inequality. The talk was followed by a very interactive Q&A session.
- On 2nd May a Vox Populi session was conducted for classes X and XI. The topic of discussion was 'Girls are better than boys'.
- On 3rd May, 4 students namely **Amitvikram Deewan**, **Aditya Agarwal**, **Akash Harlalka** and **Pranjal Agarwal** along with **Mr. Rajeev Bhatia** participated in the Young Entrepreneurship Conference. The School won the overall trophy in the competition.
- The Bollywood Musical Evening was held on the 3rd of May. The School saw amazing performances by the talented vocalists and instrumentalists of Welham Boys.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. MANPREET SINGH BADAL

Oli: Sir, you passed out from the school in 1973. How do you feel coming back to the school after so many years?

Ans- There's a flood of memories. It's such a privilege and an honor to be back at the place where one learnt how to read, write and to think. Welham Boys' School has always had a special place in my heart. I was educated in England as well as The Doon School and The St. Stephen's College but I can

still recall the teachers at Welham with a lot of fondness. Also the school looks different and different for the better; the infrastructure and the facilities are looking very nice.

Oli: We know that you have been a great Basketball player during your time. How did you manage to cope with your studies as well as your sport? Also sir what do you suggest to the youth who pursue a sport?

Ans- I was the Captain of The Doon School and luckily I live in Punjab. The National Institute of Sports (NIS) was situated in Patiala and I was passionate about the sport. During the rest time in school, when everybody rested, I used to get up quietly and start practicing. I then had access to the NIS. When India hosted its first Asian Games and all the national teams of India participated, I got to play with all the national level players and it really improved my

game. My advice to young people who are into sports is that, since sports have become really competitive, try and specialize in one sport. I think that would help you not only in the terms of achievement but also into getting into good universities.

Oli: You are a social activist and you are so determined to eradicate cancer from Malwa. So how do you plan to go about it?

Ans- I think I was one of the first men who identified that there was an epidemic in that area because that was one area of India where we were growing cotton and cotton required a lot of pesticides in those days. Since there was so much of poison (pesticides) being used, it became part of the food chain and hence we realized that our

food chain was being contaminated. So, I think prevention would be one of the first steps in eradicating a disease and then of course the state government got serious. Cancer treatment is very expensive and especially for Indians because we don't have good cancer facilities. So, I think prevention and awareness would be a huge step towards eradicating this disease.

Oli: You have been heavily involved in the country's politics for a long time now. So, what suggestion would you like to give to the students who have taken up Humanities and now want to get into the IAS?

Ans - You need to have this feeling that you owe this nation something and this something is beyond the call of duty. You don't have to be a politician to serve this

country; you don't have to be in the military to serve this country. You could be mending shoes or you could be a farmer. Anybody who can do his job honestly and with dedication and is doing it well is serving India. It's not the leaders who make up the country, it's the people like you and me who make up this nation. Destinies of nations are not shaped by the learned men but by very ordinary citizens like you and me. So if you and I can become model citizens, then I think we can change the destiny of the nation.

Interviewed By –
Anshuman Agarwal and Devansh Raheja

INTERVIEW WITH MS. RATNA VIRA



Tenzing Namgayal and Sheikh Safwan interviewing Ms. Ratna Vira

Intro -

Ratna Vira is the author of the bestselling novel 'Daughter by Court Order'. Ma'am visited the school on the 1st of May.

Oli: What was the power that you saw in your writing? What made you leave the corporate world and shift to writing?

Ans - First of all the circumstances were not that bad that one morning I had to leave everything else and just shift to

writing. Life showed me a certain path and I decided that I was going to be an author. As a first time author, I wasn't aware of some complications one has to face when publishing but at the same time I wasn't scared of trash either. Talking about my book, I genuinely felt that each one of us had a story to tell and that my time had come. I had time off, I wrote it.

Oli: Ma'am in your novel you have a character, Kamini –The mother of the

protagonist Arnie . Throughout the novel she is portrayed to be evil to the court. Do you think such characters exist in reality?

Ans - Yes, it would happen in reality and as I always say that gender issues are not the prerogatives of any one social strata of the society or any one family. I'm not the first one to take up this theme; it has been taken up before. But maybe, books like these are being read for the first time and are being discussed too causing the stern society to think about these issues.

Oli: You mentioned that it's different when you write from your heart than when you write just for the sake of it. How were you able to cope with the negativity that was around you and end up writing such an amazing book?

Ans - I think what matters here the most is focus. Just get down to it and focus on what you want to write. It is also important to believe in what you are writing and giving in your 100%. What matters is my perspective of the society and how I see things. I think that is what

is reflected in your writing when you write from your heart.

Oli: When you wrote this book, what all things were playing in your mind?

Ans - Since I'm a first time writer, insecurity did play in my mind and that's what was my primary concern. All this was because when I started writing, the general view of the people was that first time writers don't get published or that first time writers have very difficult time writing, and hardly anyone reads them. Apart from all this there was self doubt. Self doubt, because it was a different style and a different way of telling a story. I was taking the reader into a world which does not exist anymore. Also, I was trying to capture the new India. The India that has moved from black and white photographs to colored photographs and then to Instagram and Facebook. So, there was a lot of self- doubt.

Oli: Also, the mother of Arnie, Kamini, has been portrayed wicked. Ma'am, since you were the one who created the characters, would you like to give us her side of the story too? I mean what led her to be so wicked?

Ans - Clearly, I've written the book from the daughter's perspective. I've also tried to show the hypocrisy that exists in the society these days. That is, the face that you see is not the person behind the mask. That exists not only in my book but it spills over to life. This is because what you see, is sometimes not what you get. As for telling the story from Kamini's point of view I'm sure there are many Kamini's out there.

Oli: Ma'am lastly, what message would you like to give to the students?

Ans - Be the best that you can be. Because there's no glass ceiling. It's just a blue sky. It's up to you to reach out. Secondly, there's no age to anything that you're doing. This whole thing that you do certain things at a particular age is completely wrong. Don't let anyone else define things for you. Creativity can't either be boxed and neither can it be opened out. So, be who you are but remember, be the best of what you can be.

YOUTH CONFERENCE - WATER FOR HEALTH



Youth Conference 2015

As the first stroke of sunlight struck the ports of Welham on the 21st of March, the delegates came pouring in to participate in the third Youth Conference. The proceedings began with the lightening of lamp followed by several schools' presentations. The audience got the opportunity to listen to the wise words of Mr. Anil Joshi. Out of the ordinary, he requested the speech to be spoken in Hindi reasoning that in every place that he had visited it was conducted in their own language. "So why make an exception today? Why not speak in Hindi. In his talk he focused on water conservation and motivated the youth to save water. The delegates then went on to visit the Forest Reserve of India followed by a walk down the memory lane as they visited the museum.

On the actual Earth Day itself, proceedings began with a couple of schools presenting their presentations, followed by Mr. McLaughlin speech. Taking a glass of water to the podium, the headmaster of The Doon School promised not to waste it. His incidents with the tiger in Africa kept the audience entertained while some of his examples surely lifted the spirits of some sitting in the audience. The proceedings then continued in the evening, with the prize distribution ceremony followed by an electrifying dance performance by the Welham Boys' School on the beats of "Ganga Behti Ho Kyon". The dance conveyed that the River Ganga has

sacrificed everything on her part just to keep us happy. It flows selflessly just to provide humans with basic necessities whereas human's unfortunate behaviour still continues to ignore all the things that she has given us. She is the wisest amongst us as she has witnessed it all from Mahabharata to the fight of our Independence but we still treat her as she is illiterate. It's high time that we understand that we are using her more than she can give. We still need to realize that the situation will become impotent if we don't do something really fast. We still need to realize that we have to give back the earth as much as the mother earth gives us. "The Earth has enough for everyone's need but not for everybody's greed." It's time to realize that that we put an end to her sufferings before we are left without the ability to do so. As the dance met with a huge round of applause the rock band had some other ideas. The Welham Boys' School Rock Band left the delegates awe-struck as **Sheikh Safwan** swayed away the audience with his melodious tune followed by **Aditya Rathi's** mesmerizing performance. The delegates had a good time in the jam session which was followed by principal's dinner. The two day Youth Conference proved to be a successful learning experience and I hope we have more of such conferences.

-Sanskar Gupta
X-C

YOUNG ROUND SQUARE CONFERENCE, NAINITAL

On 29th April at 6 am, a group of 12 boys commenced their journey to All Saints' College, Nainital, for a "Young Round Square" conference. After 10 tiring hours we finally arrived at our destination.

All Saints' was founded in 1869 and is under the supervision of Mrs. K.E. Jeremiah, the Principal.

On our arrival in the school the teachers and students warmly welcomed us. After a short tea break we assembled in their basketball courts for an interaction session with delegates from other schools. This was very interesting as we got to meet people from different backgrounds. By the time this session was over, we were all so tired that we went straight to our rooms, jumped onto our beds and slept.

The opening ceremony took place the next morning. We then visited the botanical gardens where we saw many

different varieties of flowers and plants. Following this we headed straight to the Eco Cave Park. It was a really adventurous experience, as we had to go through really tight spaces. The easiest cave to move in was the Tiger Cave and the toughest one was the Bat Cave in which we had to literally bend the whole time.

In the evening we listened to what the keynote speaker had to say about Musk Deer. A cultural program in which each school presented a play, song or dance representing a particular culture followed this. At night we had a Barazza session after which we ate dinner and went to sleep.

On the final day in the school we went to a view point from where we could see the snow capped peaks of the Himalayas. There was a plan to go boating in Naini Lake but we had to cancel because of the sudden rainfall. We were

disappointed as we headed back to the campus, but to our surprise the school let us play a basketball tournament.

That afternoon we had lunch at the Boat House Club and then returned to hear more speeches on the environment from the speakers. That evening, post dinner, we had a dance party, and it felt like we were in heaven.

All good things come to an end, as they say and so the next day we left Nainital to return to Welham. It was a great experience for me and I look forward to participating in more events like this in the future.

- *Jigme Wangdi Lachungpa*
VII-C

KNOWLEDGE SPEAKS, WISDOM LISTENS

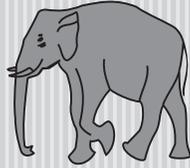
After writing this article, I would have learnt lesser than you readers. It would be only you readers who would learn new ideas. Through this article I will be expressing my prerequisite knowledge whereas you people will develop new ideas in your mind which would have been oblivious to you before even reading this.

I would not say that by writing an article I won't be learning anything new but it's just that reading and observing a few articles beforehand would take you to a different level of writing. Observing and analyzing is a much simpler key to success. By observing something you not only learn from your own mistakes but also from others' mistakes which allows you to learn and gain experience without even actually making those mistakes. Therefore, observing would be much wiser.

This form of learning is applicable with any form of motive or profession in our life but we are certainly redeeming this form of learning. We have become very narrow-minded in today's narcissistic world. If we take the example of a class room discussion, the only one who will have a chance of gaining knowledge from the discussion will be the class teacher. Every individual of the class would want himself to be felt rather than acknowledging the fact that we can even enlighten ourselves by listening to others.

I feel that one can learn more outside the classroom than inside it. This is so because one ends up observing more outside the classroom by playing a sport or doing any other activity. When someone is put into a tricky situation he can look at mistakes and miracles that are beyond his grasp and then later these observations can be implemented by a person into his or her game to speed up the rate of improvement. Henceforth, knowledge listens, wisdom speaks.

-*Sheikh Shayan*
IX-B



THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

EVERYTHING THAT IS WRONG WITH OUR COUNTRY IN 2000 WORDS (IF I HAVEN'T MISSED OUT ANYTHING).

A lot of people ask what's wrong with India. A few of them find, or try to find, the answers. And none of them do anything about it. We live in a country today that not only makes our only aspiration the one to settle outside India, but also teaches us to ridicule the occasional Hazare or Kejriwal who try to fix it.

When I began writing this article, a lot of people pointed a finger at me and said, "Hah! You're not even 18 yet. You're a passive citizen with little experience. Yet, you are questioning people thrice, even four times your age. What have you done for the country to have the right to hold anyone else accountable?"

My answer to them is simple. I'm not 18, but I've seen enough to formulate a relatively correct opinion about where our leaders are going wrong. I don't have any experience of being an active citizen, but that's something out of my control, as the laws of age do not permit me to be as old as the men I question. As for the men who run the nation being thrice my age, I'd quote Dr Sam Pitroda:

For career choices, never listen to your parents. They'll give you suggestions 25 years old.

If our leaders falter today, the youngest of the youth, people like me, do not have the right to question the system. Yes, I agree. We don't have the right, but we have the *responsibility* to do so.

It was not long ago that the Welham Boys' School's filmmaking team won an award at the Vasant Valley School, New Delhi. The topic of the filmmaking event was, "*Is there a quintessential Indian look?*"

I don't know about the others, but I saw their winning entry, and what it underlined was a problem that affects every one of us. It is a problem that is deeply rooted in our society today. We want to be westernized, and adopt everything that Hollywood teaches us. We run a hue and

cry about rapes in newspapers. We host candle marches for the so many unnamed *Nirbhayas*, and yet when we see our boy's eve-teasing girls, no one bats an eyelid. We are blindly patriarchal and chauvinism seems to be second nature to us. We try to emulate the Americans and speak in their accent, and yet we don't do anything remotely related to making our country even slightly better than it is now. Racist slurs and religious divides are our biggest weaknesses. Our Political Parties have open religious affiliations and all their policies are in coherence with their beliefs.

One could look at the state of political chaos in our nation and say, "Well, this is all that is wrong with our country." He'd be wrong. Gravely mistaken.

Another aspect that contributes to creating problems in the country is the education system. Having first hand CBSE experience, when I talk about education, you can trust me that I know my stuff. When an education system is supposed to prepare its children for the future, we find that our education system, both at the primary and the higher level, is problematically crippled. What we don't seem to understand is that foreign

students who beat us in studies will beat us for jobs tomorrow. This is one fact that seems to be eluding us for a long, long time now.

The CBSE asks for subject choices after class 10. One of the renowned Indian counselors, and resultantly my parents, believed that a student in class 10 is not mature enough to understand the repercussions of his choice later in his life. What I fail to understand is that neither Mr. Ravi Lochan Singh, nor the child's parents will be with him for his entire life. If something goes wrong, the child will always live through the regret of letting others take decisions for him, others who will not be with him when he wants to hold them accountable. On the other hand, if his choice leads him to a life of misery, he will have no one to blame to. It will be his fault, and the life he will be living will be a direct outcome of his choices. I understand that no parent can ever wish to see his child in a bad state, but the generation gap, and the time lapse between the world when you were deciding your career, and now when your child is doing the same, is something that not every individual can embrace.

If you're not performing well in a subject,

the school is entitled to strip you off of it if they believe that you'll fare badly in your class 12 boards. In a very heated argument with a teacher at my new school, I asked her a question:

"If the child is doing badly in math, and the school decides to take away math from him, and gives him another, lighter subject just three months before the board exams, how is he supposed to do well? Can you logically expect a student to cover the whole year's syllabus in half the time in grade 12? No, you can't. And if that child ends up failing the lighter subject, will the school step forward and claim responsibility for the same? Will the authorities say that yes, it was our fault? There could have been a chance of him passing in math. No, they won't. Because shrugging off responsibility is something that is the only constant in this nation."

Poor soul had no answer.

The fact that CBSE allows our schools to do this is even more worrisome. While a lot of our schools today want to keep the parents 'in the loop', they conveniently continue to forget the loop's central figure: the student.

Barring school education, a lot is wrong with our colleges as well.

Chetan Bhagat, in his non-fiction book *'What Young India Wants'*, asked a very relevant question: (Yes, CB does write sensible stuff as well, folks!)

"Why do we have colleges in our country that have entrance examinations far tougher than what our schools can prepare us for?"

The statement rings true, and its validity is confirmed by the existence of thousands of coaching centres in almost all big cities in the country today. Mr. Ravi Lochan Singh, again, claims that in his 30 years of career-counseling career, he has not seen one International Baccalaureate student crack the IIT-JEE. When he says that, he's arguing the flaws of the IB in context to a future in India. While he received a lot of praise for his blog, what I failed to grasp was that given the fact that most IIT aspirants are from the CBSE and other regional boards, and that the number of IB

students perhaps even considering the IIT's forms a percentage that's almost negligible, how do we conclude that the best products of the IB system are not at par with the people who crack the JEE exam? Factually speaking, 7 out of 10 IIT'ians used supplementary coaching material, and claim that the JEE paper would be majorly unsolvable without the same. The observation that these coaching centres thrive (Harsh Agarwal, pun intended), and that a lot of non-coaching, supposedly bright students don't make it to the IIT's year after year, is alarming. It goes on to further malign our primary education system.

The fact of the matter is that the IIT's are a symbol of exclusive quality in our land. Exclusivity is something we crave, and what we seem to forget is that if the IIT's had stood for 'quality for all', India as we now now would have been different. By selection percentage, the JEE is the toughest examination in the world. In a country that suffers with acute population problems, we have a system that filters out 99% of our high potential population (*Out of 50 lakh class 12 students, 5 lakh are the top 10% and are a high potential population. Out of 5 lakh, roughly 5 thousand get seats in the IITs*) and condemns them to private, low quality educational institutes. The lack of new colleges opening up is a major issue that continues to hamper our productivity.

The IIT's are good colleges. I don't question that, but their existence has led to more psychological hype, pressure and exaggeration than anything else in the last 67 years of our independent existence. A lot of people against the IIT's argue that they do not enjoy any reputation abroad. I'm wise enough to know that this argument is flawed. They do have a reputation and an excellent one at that, but how beneficial is it for our country's image is something I leave on you to decide after you've read the next anecdote:

When Anish Sapra attended his first lecture at an American University as an M.Tech student, the first question that the Professor asked was, "How many of the Indians here are from the IIT's?" Sapra

raised his hand along with a few others. The Professor then went on to say, "These will be the brightest students in your class, guys, and I want you to observe them and learn from them."

There exactly is the problem. Indians are always good students. They are always good employees. They are always good managers. But rarely are they good innovators, inventors or entrepreneurs. I remember that when in class 8, I debated for the Indian Education system against Harshun Mehta. It was a war lost even before it began.

After I'm done ranting about the shortcomings of our schools and colleges, you'd expect me to run out of things that are wrong with our country. You'd be wrong.

The third problem that we face is the cultural problem. Rather, I can just simplify it and say that we, as Indians, worry far more about what others will think of us, than trying to make ourselves better. "*Log kya kahenge...*" is the catchphrase of the Indian population.

The roots of this problem emerge from the fact that we have evolved from a highly stereotypical and blindly patriarchal society. We do not value individualism, as is evident from how much we believe in the power of the "mob". Since we worship the power of sticking together too much, we continuously try to picture ourselves as a part of a group, and thus, impressing that group becomes our only motive. I might say that most parents' primary motive to force their children to do something is for the child's betterment, but more often than not, another desire is to have the bragging rights about how their children study in a so-and-so college, and have an annual package of x-y-z amount. Our constant attempts to fit into the society also result in our obsession with safety.

Microsoft has a very high number of Indian employees, and undoubtedly they are people with the finest intellectual capacity. At least some, if not all of them are smart enough that had they opened their own ventures, they'd be millionaires today. But they don't do that. Why?

Because when you open a business, there's a probability of failure. Who wants to take a risk when you can go to office, work for someone else and have your money, without any delay, delivered to you every month! Yet these are the very people who later in life are able to spend the least time with their families. After all, when Bill Gates pays them a good amount a month, obviously he'd make them slog their butts off (*You don't want to bet against Bill Gates when it comes to*

getting the best out of his money). The entrepreneur, on the other hand, becomes vella-er (Welham lingo) as he becomes richer, but only because he opted to take that risk some decades ago. It's possible that some of the hopefuls might have failed, but then *ummid pe hi toh duniya kayam hai!*

So there we have, the 3 problems: Our fascination with anything foreign and us being a very fragmented society, education, and our mentality. Deal with

them, and we have a better nation than what we see today around us. Definitely, we can expect some of them, especially the last one, to be solved as time progresses. But for the others, we'll have to stand up, and take that RISK. Not as a group, but as INDIVIDUALS.

#sorryfortheranting

-*Shaurya Singh*
Ex Student (096/KA)

KNOW THYSELF, BE THYSELF

"There is the day you were born, and there is the day you find out why."

Seeing things that are unseen, listening to things that you 'hear' almost everyday (Yes, I'm talking about your instinct) but never 'listen' to.

The other day I was sitting on the benches in the academic block, reading a newspaper, and the above thought (from the graffiti column of TOI) caught my eye. Rendering on the notion, I asked myself-

How would I spend my day if I had all the money in the world? What would my perfect day look like? What if there were NO limitations? Think about it.

Everyone wants to wake up in the morning, excited, jumping out of bed with a thirst of doing something NEW, something DIFFERENT! But why? What impels you or what gives you the incentive to think in a manner that can probably change your life? Are you bored of doing the same things, following the same schedule (Yes, just as a robot) or are you just doing things for the sake of doing? Or is it because of some peripheral factors that are affecting you or a change in trend or fashion, increased competition which doesn't suit you (or your product, in case of a sole proprietor).

No! Perhaps, it is because you want to improve your life. You want to add more flavor, more meaning to it for which you

will have to discover yourselves; reveal qualities about yourselves that you didn't know earlier and deep inside you know that in order to achieve such a target, i.e., to discover yourselves, you will have to do every possible weird as well as a crazy job possible! (Even if it is driving an auto-rickshaw for a day).

If you want to find yourself, you'll have to be lost; lost in just 'doing things'; lost in the 'art of introspection'. The more things you do, the more you get to know about yourself. Deep down you wish you had this 'knowing' to pull you forward. Hence, your purpose can be your 'driving force' which can pull you forward. But remember, there is a 'thin' line of distinction between your ambition and over-ambition; confidence and over-confidence.

Since there are ups and downs in every rollercoaster ride, similarly, this journey has its too. The first slope which terrifies you is your 'internal belief'. It will stop you; tell you that you are crazy for trying to find your purpose and, in fact, yourself in the first place. Still if you carry on and stay attentive on finding yourselves, then you will have to face the final turn of this ride.

Lastly, the scariest turn of this anxious ride, will be the facing of harsh words, which too your internal belief will have to confront. Thoughts such as "You don't deserve to find your purpose of life" or "You won't find what you are looking for."

will keep bothering you and your instinct will keep absorbing your confidence and scare you in every bit of the ride by these tricks and turns.

Even though your instinct isn't true, it is. (Like it is said in the Bible – whatever you say is eternally true by either ends). Your inner dialogue is more afraid than you are! Its main aim is to keep you secure and convinced.

So, never lose hope. Stay focused (bring into play the 'Me-time' theory).

Now, after too much of only thinking, observing and discovering yourselves (lights and camera), it is the time for action! The only thing you have to do is to swing your sword of action and stop these beliefs. Just go out and do things. Make things happen; let things go by your way (not by the means they want to). Learn something 'new' everyday. Explore yourselves. Be yourself. Everyone is 'YOUUnique'. Don't just keep thinking... Act! That way you build power.

Now, from this instant, the day you will find out WHY is not too far away. So brace yourselves and enjoy the ride!

Still discovering myself...

Your philosopher friend,

Aishwarya Soni
XII-Comm.

NOTE: THIS ARTICLE IS PLAGIARIZED

The point system for rewards and consequences is just about to be enforced in school. Out of the many 'unacceptable' activities that one can indulge in to get their points deducted, is plagiarism. According to the point system, plagiarism is a level-3 offence. Anyone caught plagiarizing might suffer the loss of upto 50 points. While plagiarism continues to lose its acceptability, I started thinking about the deeper meaning of plagiarism and came to the conclusion that perhaps, plagiarism may not be such an unacceptable crime after all.

Before moving forward, it is essential that I first establish the deeper meaning of plagiarism. Plagiarism is the copying or using some other person's ideas without giving them the credit. Now, in this regard the entire notion of development

is based on the act of plagiarizing. Progress is only stimulated when people start altering or improving pre-existing works and ideas. However in this case, one might argue that credit can still be given to the people or organizations whose ideas or works you are seeking to alter or improve. But it is not always very easy to give credit when one takes the larger picture in mind, primarily, because the source of inspiration is not always clear. In most cases the knowledge that one uses in his or her ideas and works is an accumulation of knowledge acquired through various sources over a large period of time. Hence, giving credit is not always practical.

Since plagiarism is essential for development, and development has now become a way of life there is no reason why plagiarism should not be acceptable

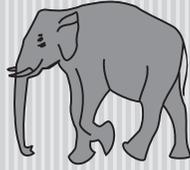
in our society. However if we narrow down the meaning of plagiarism to instances of deliberate stealing of works or ideas then talking about its morality has no meaning. That, without doubt, should be considered as immoral as any other kind of theft. And that is the plagiarism which the point system in our school is trying to discourage.

This article could only be written by the knowledge that I acquired through my various teachers, peers or perhaps the books that I have read. Since I choose not to, or rather, I fail to recognize and acknowledge each of these sources, this article too is DEFINITELY PLAGIARISED.

-Mohit Gupta
XI-Sci

Guess it's true that too many cooks spoil the broth.





LASAGNE

Lampoon

The Two Month Saga – A Holiday Special

The term is going to end but this only marks the start of the crazy-talking a Welhamite does before going for holidays. Hearing a Welhamite is amazing (Well we know how it is) but especially when he is narrating to you his Super- Plans for his holiday. His excitement will make you believe that he is going to have the best holidays ever, but trust me, that is no where near the truth. Everything he talks about is never going to happen and the only thing he ends up doing is eat and sleep to glory.

Here I have talked about what actually happens but now let's go back a little and talk about the ever so exciting plans which are extremely easy to make but equally difficult to follow. (Maybe two months are not enough....It's time we extend the holidays).

A Movie a Day Keeps the Boredom Away

Inspired by this, most of the Welhamites plan to watch as many movies as they can in order to cover up on their lost time during the term. Ranging from Hollywood to Bollywood flicks, Welhamites plan to watch almost everything but maybe Moms and Movies don't go together. Perhaps maternal affection becomes a hurdle in watching some epic movies. These plans soon become a thing for the future....a future they know is never going to come.

Full on studies for better grades

Troubled by their 'exemplary' marks in their last term, the Welhamites seek to travel a path of industry and hard work to reach their goal and finally score a 90% in their exams. But does this really happen? The anguish of sitting on the table with the big fat books drives them crazy. Phones replace the books and most of the forces are now only studied on the internet (specially the force of attraction). Consequently, at the end of the holidays we are capable of scoring a 90% in the subject

called 'social network', but doing the same in math and physics remains a distant dream.

Gym and fitness

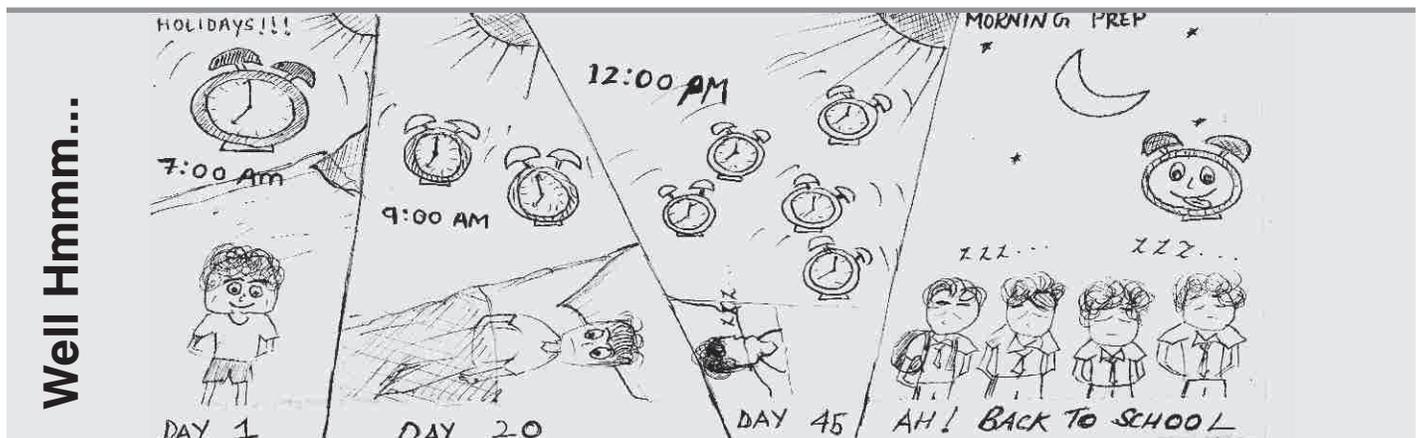
With motivation in the heart and strength in conviction, most of the Welhamites plan to hit the gym every morning, jog around 5km a day and ultimately have a diet which is both nutritious and balanced. But after the steady start, it's time for the true colours to surface. 'Every morning' becomes 'alternate evenings', the jog is nearly forgotten and the diet now only consists of burgers and pizzas. Thus the exhilarating plans of becoming the next Arnold of the school end up going down the drain until next time.

The 'Sacred' Intention

A Welhamite has some plans for his holidays that he seldom shares with anyone else. These involve the acquaintances made at different events throughout the term. Now it is time for giving this friendship another name. But are two months enough? It seems very easy at first but then he finds things slipping away because the only things that he talks about now are things that he already knows an answer to or has an idea about. Now this 'intention' quite clearly fails to yield any reward, as there is not much time left to move further. The maternal hurdle quite often comes to play in this plan as well.

Now that we have spoken of all the fiascos that a Welhamite faces during holidays we just hope that this time we accomplish at least one of our goals for holidays. All the best guys!!!

-Prabhapaar Singh Batra
XI- Sci





Gazebos:

These beautiful structures that spread all over the campus were a pleasant surprise to every student when they came back from the vacations. No wonder they have already become the hotspot for late night talks and meetings.



Maintenance Dept.:

The elaborate structure took over a year to develop and patience has borne fruit. The building has been appreciated by one and all and has only gone on to improve the architectural standards of our school. Good to know that the maintenance of all structures of school is in safe hands.



Climbing Wall:

Right beside the maintenance department is the newly constructed climbing wall. This has provided an opportunity for students who love the thrill of adventure to quench their thirst. Who knows, someday we may have our very own expert!

TOP 7



Dining Hall Board:

From reminding us of important announcements to making our day by enlightening us through resonant quotes, this new installment has proved perfect. Oli wishes Aariz Nizam Ansari all the very best with his endeavors in managing the board.



Volleyball Courts:

Reviving the ages old tradition of this Welham, the newly constructed volleyball courts behind the Theatron have become a source of constant joy for the avid sportspersons of Welham. Young Welhamites are seen actively propagating the sport in school.



Oliphant Gate and Guard Room:

This grand addition to the already booming architectural endowment of the school has only further enhanced its glory. The huge gate has been built to perfection. The Guard room accompanying the gate is seen to be completed in the near future.



Badminton and Tennis Practice Courts:

Who says Badminton Outer courts are no fun? Students have been seen taking part joyously in the game and has also manage to relieve some pressure off the Activity Centre. The Tennis Practice Courts have also been a welcome addition.

Picture Credits : Shoaib Shawl

Ever Wonder Why?

- Anshuman (soon to be chaprasi-in-chief) has stopped contributing to the lasagne section of the Oliphant. (Did anyone say Anmol Saini??)
- Shivay Bansal never enters the middle-floor Prefects' Room of the Jamuna House. (Anti-Shivay slogans are all around these days.)
- Amartya Singh and Mukul Panwar are not seen together anymore.
- Mr. Brahma Raina does not turn to the last page of the Oliphant. (The editorial board, eh!)
- Aariz Nizam Ansari has been so cheerful ever since his return from his seven-day leave. (Someone seems awfully #loaded!)
- Satvik Jain does not want to go home for summer holidays. (*Jab life hai chill toh kyon bharo bill!!*)
- Pranjal Agarwal plans not to compete in the inter-house tug of war this time.
- Pranav Gupta did not attend the Sports Captain's Ceremony. (*Dil Ke Armaan... Toot Gaye!*)
- Class XII Com 'A' fears to sit in the Research Lab during their Accountancy Class. (No Doubt, the 'A' stands for their much feared teacher! What say Mr. Arora?)

Rumour Has It

- Devyansh Rai can eat up to a hundred Laddoos at a time! (Woah! I wish this rumour does not come true!)
- Harshun Mehta has slightly different plans for the first month of the Holidays. (Hmmm... Now what could it be... Berry House?)
- Pushpendra Saroj is the next contender for the Vocalist of the Year. (Gulabi Aankhein and all ha!)
- Cauvery House is going to install Wi-Fi routers in the Hostel! (God, Let this come true!!)
- Mr. **Pareshaan** (Prashant) Chaturvedi has lodged an FIR against The Oliphant because of his mention in the previous edition. (Tough Luck Sir!)
- Mr. Pradeep Nagarkoti has set a record of using the most number of chit books in the school. (Keep up the good work sir.)
- Banana's are Mr. John K.C.'s favourite fruit. (Bad for us guys!)
- Shivay Bansal's hands are just as tiny as Tenzing's. (Hey, we want to make out the difference.)
- Sheikh Safwan has decided to pass-on his Mac-Book Pro to the next Editor-in-chief. (Woah, so who is going to be the lucky one!!)
- Vaibhav Banka can access the restricted sites without changing the IP address. (Bro, how is your Cyberoam account doing?)

What's in What's out

What's In	What's Out
Staff having Oli issues	Oli having Staff issues
AU	JK
Banana Break	Fruit Break
Arushi Parmar	Amol Agarwal, Vinayak Agarwal
Ms. Vandana Srivastav	Ms. Shibani Arora
IP Adress	Cyberoam Password
Samsung Tablets	Laptops
-----	Dance Captain's Post (Tentative)
Meghansh Khurana	Aariz Nizam Ansari

Wackiest Pic



#psycho

Through The Keyhole

- **Tejeshwar Jaiswal to Vayank Bhatia** – Which class is that sixthie in?
- **Raghav Agarwal to Naman Agarwal** – Which world is you?
- **Sheikh Safwan** to the Oli board – Guys, where is Raheja? I remember seeing him on dinner. (Good going Mr. Ed-in-chief)
- **Mr. Brahma Raina** to class X-A: The sun revolves around the world. (And the earth revolves around the moon, sir.)
- **Ma'am Bindra** (in response to Aaditya's fiasco with the word 'thoughting') – Aditya, I heard that you won the first prize in Doon School. Well Donning!!!
- **Prithvi Aggarwal to Mir Ali**- Oye , lets add something in the Ramar Has It Column of the Oliphant. (Sorry bro, this aint Sankalp!!!)
- **Mir Ali to Sheikh Safwan** - You know what? School has ordered thirty simsong tablets that can be issued by the students. (Yeah and soon we will have Naakia too.)
- **Aman Agarwal** - Where will the baski finals be held, in the baski field? (And I play soccer in the soccer courts!!)
- **Suryansh Singh to Pranjal Agarwal** - Oye, are you DSMUN. Pranjal (rather confused) - I wish I could answer that...
- **Aishwarya Soni** while making an announcement in the Bethany - All the interesting Twelfthies can join in for the movie in the AV Room too. (But dude what if they are boring?!)
- **Staff member to Mr. Saurav Sinha** - "How come you decided to teach at Welham?" Mr. Sinha - "I am an ex Welhamite." Staff member - "Oh I see. (Thinking of what to ask next) So where did you go to school?"

Separated At birth

Umair Wani	Oscar Pistorius
Aariz Nizam Ansari	Ibu Hatela
Aman Agarwal	Dheeraj Pandey
Devyansh Rai	Mr. John Casey
Satvik Jain	Mowgli
Mir Ali	Natalie Portman from V for Vendetta

Editorial Board

Editor-in-chief: *Sheikh Safwan Fayaz*

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Cartoonist: *Amol Agarwal*

Correspondent: *Anshuman Agarwal, Yugdeep Shokeen, Anant Agarwal & Aditya Dokania*

Teacher-in-Charge: *Saurav Sinha*

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