



The Elephant

No. 232

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

9th September, 1999

Think About It...

In order to possess, one must first have desired

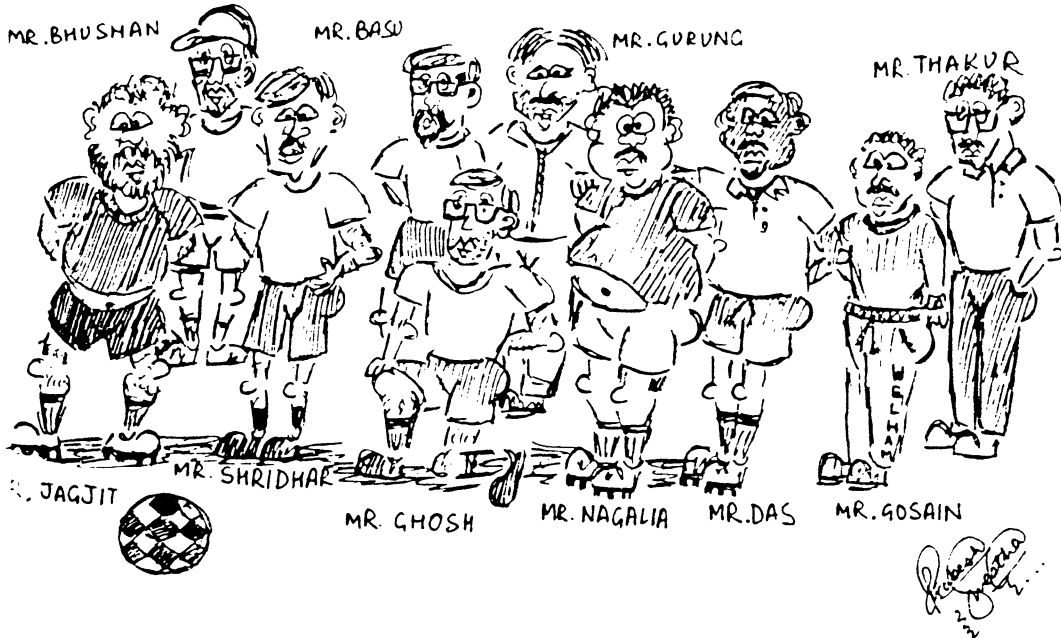
- Marcel Proust

EDITORIAL

The IT-Lab now has a printer which is used on the 'honour system' in other words each boy who uses it is expected to write down his name in the roster. The importance of this does not lie in the fact that we now have easy access to a printer, but in the fact that it is a beginning. A beginning towards a change in our attitude as to how we use resources that essentially belong to us. Many of us feel that other departments should provide the same facilities. Are we so incompetent as to not be able to look after

lies in the fact, that we, as individuals, could exercise better control on the management of the limited time available to us

When are we free from the influence of others? The other day I asked a junior boy what he wanted to be when he grew up, and his prompt, honest answer was 'a pilot' - because as children we are filled with awe for the unknown, awe for this great world. Age however, makes such things appear unimportant, goaded by what society expects of us.



our own resources? Recently, the LRC also held an exhibition on books that had been mutilated; look around you, and you will have your answer.

Somebody asked me what I missed most when I was at boarding school, and I could think of no better answer than 'idleness' - time to be with myself. In our busy, contorted lives, pregnant with responsibility, not many of us stop to smell the roses. It's not the school, or the responsibilities I hold guilty, but the demanding world. And the great misfortune

we turn to being accountants, engineers and doctors Superior in knowledge, and financially sound-that, is what society expects of us. The dream of being a pilot, of seeing the world, is left behind. That, alone is the greatest problem that plagues us today

Criticism and cynicism seem to be on everybody's lips, whether in the form of complaints about the school food (many of them baseless) or ex boys who complain about the vast changes that have been brought about since the time they finished

school. No matter how we look at it, change is inevitable, however, I can't help but notice how true Jerome K. Jerome's words ring true when he says 'If you are foolish enough to be contented, don't show it, but grumble with the rest'. I must admit though, Sunday lunch is fast becoming a popular meal, that nobody wants to miss.

Politics is in the air yet again (why am I getting the feeling that this isn't the last time I'll be saying it my tenure as Editor?). Quite obviously, the politicians feel 'you can fool too many of the people too much of the time'. In a matter of a few months, I would be old enough to vote, however, when I really get down to thinking about it, I realise it's not the easy task most of us think it to be, and for now, unfortunate as it may seem, I am only glad I cannot exercise my right to vote. Is it best that I cannot vote? Is ignorance bliss?

Moving to lighter matters, it was truly a sight to witness the enthusiastic staff running around on the field during the staff versus boys match organised

on Teachers' Day. The school got to see some of the most exquisite pairs of legs on campus kick the soccer ball around. What really took the cake was the fact that they actually won! And won by a lopsided victory of six goals to nil too. I'm still a little shaken from this unexpected victory, especially since this is the one day the boys get their revenge on the staff.

In a not-so-surprising turn of events, good old Dehra Dun seems to have caught up with the pool craze. It appears pool joints have now bumped movie theatres into second spot as the haunt of the 'outing addicts'. So much so, at one point the Head even wanted to place a pool table in PH; the plan seems to have been scrapped somewhere down the line though. However, I find this lemming behaviour somewhat strange and give the fad another six months to die down.

Yours cynically,
Karan.

Welham Now

1) The School Committee Meeting was held on 20th August, 1999 in the L.R.C. The minutes of the previous meeting were passed and matters arising thereafter were discussed.

1. Mr. Bhushan asked if 'collective punishment' was to be given only in exceptional cases, as it discourages those boys showing good conduct. The Chairman discussed the point with the School Captain and finally decided that collective punishment would be given only after discussing the matter over with the Housemasters and Principal.

2. Pranay Patodia asked for arrangements to be made for the boys who had sisters in Mussoorie International School for Rakhi. The Chairman disagreed and said the school would not make any arrangements, and boys would have to make their own arrangements through their Local Guardians.

3. Avinash Agrawal suggested more flowers to be planted behind the Activity Centre, but the Chairman said that he would look for better alternatives as watering the flowers would require a lot of water. He also suggested that the road leading to the North Block should have trees planted along it. The Chairman said that this had already been done. Another suggestion of his was to build a shed over the Paper Recycling Room, to which the Chairman replied that the matter would be looked into.

4. Kunal Virmani asked for the curtains in the Activity Centre to be replaced. The Chairman said he would look into the matter.

5. Rahul Lohia said that the Bully Box could be

misused, and therefore felt that it ought to be abolished. The Chairman said that every complaint should have evidence along with it, only then would action be taken.

6. Pavitra Goel asked for the main field's grass to be cut; the Chairman said it would be done.

7. Raj Krishna Maheshwari asked for *chics* to be put in Krishna, the Chairman said he would discuss the matter further with the housemaster.

8. Samridha Rana complained that the Krishna house generator was not being used during power failures. The Chairman said that this was a matter to be discussed with the Housemaster.

9. Prabesh Shrestha suggested that umbrellas with the school's emblem be designed. The Chairman said he would look into the matter.

10. Manan Kumar Sah asked for Billiards and Pool to be introduced in school, but the Chairman disagreed as it would require unnecessary investments.

11. Kaustubh Dwivedi wanted the Triveni ceiling fans to be connected to the generator, but the Chairman said it could not be done as it would put too much load on the generator.

12. Kanishk Kaushik asked for music to be played during meals; the Chairman disagreed.

13. There was a suggestion from the boys living in Triveni that the emergency doors be kept open. The Chairman agreed, but also said that house captains would have to be responsible for discipline

14. Mr. Ghosh wanted the road between the back field and the Academic Block to be raised to prevent

water logging. The Chairman said he would discuss the matter with the concerned authorities.

15. Several suggestions regarding assistance to the Kargil cause were discussed.

2) The Badminton team comprising Kunal Virmani, Rishi Bagaria, Saumya Khaitan & Vir Bhadra participated in the IPSC Badminton Competition from 19th to 24th August held at the Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer.

3) Ijlal Shamsi, Rishi Bagaria, Parimal Piyush & Azar Zaidi attended the FACE-IT (Facts About Current Events In Town) workshop, conducted by the Shishya Society at the Inderlok Hotel on 27th & 28th August. It dealt with Youth Issues and Concerns.

4) The school attended an Environmental Talk conducted by Mr. Negi on the afternoon of 31st August.

5) The Squash team comprising Charanjeet Mann, Avneet Brar, Karan Manchanda, Subashish Thapaliya, Rahul Lohia, Karan Mehrotra, Abhishek Kapoor and Arjun Manchanda left for a tournament

at Mayo College, Ajmer on 1st September.

6) The Food Committee meeting was held on 31st August. Several important matters regarding the food and discipline inside the dining hall were discussed.

7) Rishi Bagaria, Amish Mulmi & Anshuman Singh were the runners up at the Miss Russell Nature Quiz held at WGHS on 2nd September.

8) Nitin Bansal and Daman Chikara participated in the Inter School Hindi Debate held at MIS on 1st September.

9) The Inter House English Extempore Debate was held on 2nd September. The results were as follows:

First:	Rohan Sachdeva
Second:	Azar Zaidi
Third:	Rudra Pratap
Most Promising Speaker:	Karn Singh
Best Rebuttal:	Rohan Sachdeva

House Positions:

First:	Krishna
Runners up:	Jamuna

W.O.B.N

1) The date for Founder's Day this year has been fixed for 30th October, therefore the Welham Old Boys' Society's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday 31st October at 12:30 a.m. in the L.R.C. Old Boys' Society Vs. school matches will be held on Sunday morning and as usual the Old Boys' dinner will be on the 30th evening on the L.R.C. roof

2) The W.O.B.S.-Delhi Chapter is having a contributor get-together over cocktails and dinner at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 25th September, 1999 at the Rock Garden, India International Centre, 40 Max Mueller Marg, Lodi Estate, New Delhi. Please

confirm your acceptance to **Nikhil Kriplani** at 3736262/3355300 (**office**) or 6519501/6569616 (**residence**) latest by 22nd September.

3) The meeting of the Executive Committee of the W.O.B.S was held at Cottage No. 1 of the Delhi Gymkhana Club on Friday, 13th August 1999. The Committee held discussions on the articles and Memorandum of Association and the guidelines of the W.O.B.S. The final draft will be ready for placing before the members at the forthcoming AGM.

Literary Affairs

THE RISE OF A STAR..... THAT DIDN'T GO FAR

At age thirteen ,
Spike formed a band,
As his friends had always seen him take a stand,
In music he had the upper hand.

At age seventeen,
His band was asked to perform,
At a funeral where people came to mourn,
The public loved it and it stirred a storm,

At age eighteen,
They made a record called Sky,

It had a chartbreaker called 'Baby I'd Love to Die'
He earned so much, he could even buy a lie.

At age nineteen,
He got drugged,
His next record was titled Bugged
It didn't do well and his popularity plugged.

At age twenty,
He lost all he had
People thought he was mad
Whatever happened to him was quite sad.

Here is a classic case,
Of a man with a rockstar's face

It was the rise of a star,
But didn't go far.

- Kanishk Kaushik

QUO VADIS

The sun grew crueller by the minute, and we had already exhausted our water flasks. The camels were dragging their feet, and I could only see sand as far as I could stretch my eyes. We were completely lost with our compass coming under Ruinis's feet. Ruinion, his cousin, was already in a state of delirium, after being stung by a scorpion when he was taking out a thorn from one of the camel's hoof. Ever since then, he had been asking for water. No one blamed Ruinis for breaking the compass, but we were angry as hell when he used our maps to light a fire to cook some birds he had shot.

Runion had turned a bluish tinge, and seemed overwhelmed by the poison. All attempts to take out the poison were in vain, and we could already sense the slow and painful death he was dying. It was then that, Runion asked Edward to kill him. Edward sensed the despair he was in, and so looked at us.

Runion begged again, and this time Edward looked at Ruinis and cocked his revolver, with brimming eyes. Ruinis fell onto his knees on the hot sand, and crawled to his brother and hugged him for one final time. Then both of us hugged him with tears flowing down our cheeks. Runion told us, "please go now." Ruinis looked at Edward and nodded yes. And Edward with closed eyes pulled the trigger on Runion's forehead.

We started on our never ending journey again, but this time with the absence of a very dear friend and brother, and just his memories with us now. We would never forget the sacrifice he made in this desolate place, and the lone tear that fell from his cheek down on the sand as he slowly slipped away into oblivion.

- Fatehpal Khara
Class IX

Those Wacky Woodseaters . . .

My Trip to Gujarat

Last holidays I went to Gujarat with my mother, uncle and my brother. First we went to Delhi by taxi then we went to Ahmedabad by train. There was a soldier who was going to Kargil. I also went to Jamnanagar. There I stayed with my Aunt. She took me to the Museum. There I saw a whale's skeleton, I also saw Raja Ranveer Singh's statue. Next day I

went to Dwarka to see the temples. Then I went to Porbander. There I saw Gandhiji's house. From there I went to Daman And Diu. I went to the beach. It is very beautiful. The waves rippled all over.

- Khushagra
Class III

My Aunt

My Aunt's name is Devna. She is twenty five years old. She is a doctor. She lives in Delhi. She likes to wear jeans and top. She loves me and I love her. Sometimes she teaches me. On Sundays she likes to go to India Gate. She plays with me. I always

swim with her. She knows how to swim very well. She likes to eat Chinese food.

- Piyush Gupta
Class II

My Monkey

I have a monkey. Her name is Paro. She is very naughty and playful. She always fights with my dog. I take her for an evening walk everyday. I like

my Paro and miss her when I come to school.

- Akilesh Jung
Class III

A Visit to the Zoo

One day I visited the zoo with my parents. I saw monkeys, elephants, lions, rabbits and tigers. I gave chips to the monkey. I saw many trees in the zoo. I played with the monkey. I went for a ride on

the elephant. I enjoyed a lot. I played with the rabbit. I saw giraffes also. I came back home at night.

- Nadeem Khan
II

Nature's Diary

Report on 'The Environmental Talk'

On the evening of 31st August, we attended a brief talk on environment and the dangers faced by man. Mr. Negi was present to enlighten us on the topic. These talks were organised by the State Governments in various schools to spread among the students awareness regarding the future of environment and its destruction by man. Although the talk was a wake-up call for all of us, it also made us aware of the dangers that lie ahead as a result of our callousness and never-ending desires.

He spoke on issues such as Global Warming and its direct outcome as temperatures increase all around the globe. If such conditions were to continue, the daytime temperatures would reach as high as 150 degrees Celsius, and during nights it would freeze at -175 degrees Celsius. Global Warming would also take its toll on the polar ice caps, and if the immense amount of ice melted, most of the coastal cities would be under water.

He also gave us an interesting fact that till 1927, Dehradun inhabitants didn't require any fans. Saharanpur is just about 50 kms away, yet the temperature difference is 6 degrees. And at the rate

of present pollution of the Ganges, it would dry up in another 300 years.

He then informed us of the people who have contributed towards the environment and about the various environmental agencies that abound today with the common aim of improving the Earth for our future. He advised us to recycle and to not waste natural resources like water. Small things can lead to bigger achievements. He made us realise our mistakes which we tend to think as small, but aren't, such as the topsoil, which takes about 1000 years to make but gets eroded within minutes due to our selfish methods.

He then stressed upon the point of not repeating his advice, but to follow it, so that we could do a small bit for the environment in our own way. It was pleasure to have him speak to us, and though quite unfortunate, but interesting facts were provided by him to enlighten us on our planet. We will try our best to find solutions to these problems in our own way.

- Kanishk Kaushik
Class XI

A Discovery...

Late one evening, a car entered the school and drove towards the North Block. As the car reached the lily pond, the headlights lit it. And the driver saw a beautiful sight, that of a huge bird trying to fish in the darkness.

The next day, Mr. Nagalia spread the word around of his sighting. Soon it was determined that the bird was an owl which had strayed into the campus from the nearby woodlands. A few days later, there was racket in the academic block, where a few crows were swooping down

on a bird hidden in the trees. The bird was identified as the Great Horned Owl or the Eagle Owl by the Nature Club boys, and it matched with Mr. Nagalia's description of the bird.

The Great Horned Owl is about 56 cms in size, and both the sexes are alike. It is a solitary, nocturnal bird. It feeds around sunset, and has a slow flight, which can go on for a considerable distance when disturbed. It is

marked by its typical call, which sounds like Bubo! Bubo!



This bird is found throughout the Himalayas, and its habitats are ravines, cliffsides, river side shrubs and open country.

We need to keep our eyes open for a view

of this beautiful rare bird presently in our campus. Hopefully it will find a home here.

- Gurjeet Singh Khaira
Class VIII

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE !!!

L.R.C.

An argument about a picture is going on...

Sarbans: This is a *crocodile*..yaar.

Rana: No, no this is an *aligator*...

Sarbans: no yaar.....

Rana: No.....

During this arugment Gagandeep walks in...

Sarbans: Oye, Gagandeep only you can tell what this is.

Gagandeep: Oye, this is a *Lacoste*!!

Rishi Raj tears Gagandeep's Prayer book.

Gagandeep(after realizing what had happened): Oye, Rishi why did you *BROKE* my prayer book, yaar!

Prep.

Psalm Dastoor hears prayers & bhajans from the basti...

Psalm: Oye, who is this singing?!... why doesn't Kanishk *check him??*

Over heard.

Senior boy: Bhaiya, which class are you in?

Junior boy: Bhaiya, bhaiya I am *third class!*

Kumar Nilay: Good evening, Sir!

Mr. Bhatia: *I know....huh..!!!*

Soccer Match Ganga VS Cauvery.

Abhisar Garga: Oye, what is this Aseem Sethi doing, yaar..?

Vinayak Pant: Oye yaar, he is *wicket keeping!*

Mr..Ghosh: *Hey guys,* just check your pulse rate just before you wake up in the morning....

Kanishk: Hey, what are those dark patches on the mountains??

Azar: They are the shadows of the clouds over them.

Kanishk: No, they aren't!

Azar: Then what ??

Kanishk: *SUN BURNS!!*

WHAT'S IN !!??

Cool mail
School Captain's Yellow raincoat
Short spikey hair
Pool

WHAT'S OUT ii??

MSN Hotmail
His black umbrella
Long Locks
Movies

Separated At Birth !!

Mr. Joshi
Randolph Smart
Anant Dwivedi
Jai Kapoor

Adhar Ohri
Mark Philipoussous
Kaustubh Dwivedi
Sudhanshu Modi

LAMPOON

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO GENERAL ELECTIONS '99

In the sweet memory of those who died bringing this nation up "By hand",
for every saintly *neta* who took a stand,
against all wrongs and sins,
Forget slaying others, had no mercy for his own kin's.

Whew, we Indians really love to play games, huh! First there was the Cricket world cup followed by the Grand Slam. Sometimes I really wonder what our national game is.

(DTE: Obviously hockey. Kanishk: Are you mad it is *Kabaddi*). Tch Tch. poor ignorant souls. I guess they have not heard of the latest stuff around- Politics, 'coz everything is unfair in love, war and POLITICS (the only thing that drives the nation up the wall). As a great intellectual patriot once said - 'The only substitute for drugs is *Rajniti*,' get in, get high, get out & good-bye.

It is simply that when the going gets tough, the tough get going. The Indian mind is simply bewildered, whom to elect? Is it the lady from Rome or the nation's first poet. Gosh, come to think of it, why does this happen only in India. (Didn't you just say it was the national game?!- DTE)

It had been around for quite some time that the Congress-I (note, now 'I' for international) will

have a unique election symbol. Everybody expected something from outer space. But, the Leaning Tower of Pisa is ridiculous. Not to mention, the prospects of actually having Pasta as the national food, and of course, the Mafioso as the defence ministry. We are livin' on the edge!

The home front could not have been more bleak with *Hamra Lalu* and his army of cows (note now Kow-gil), undoubtedly his election sign will be a fat kow gourmandizing on fodder. But the BJP

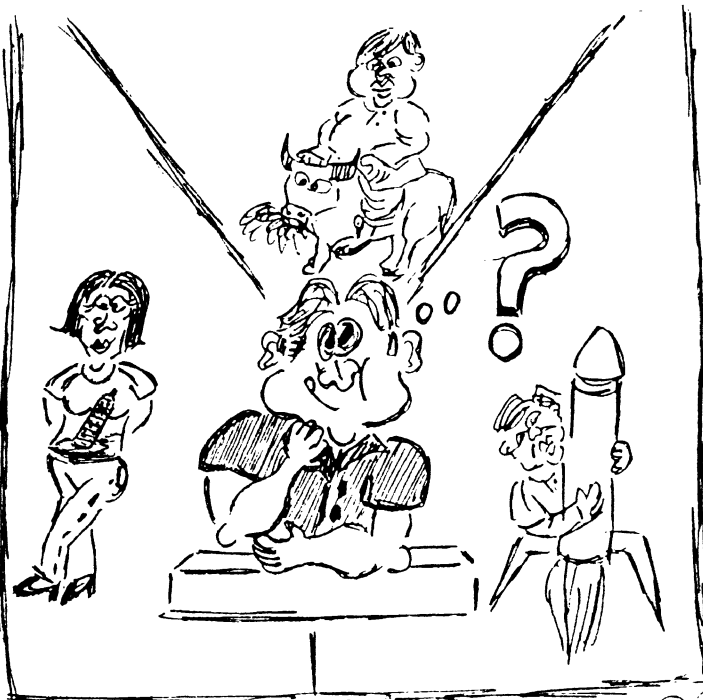
hogged up all the lime-light when it came up with its rather patriotic slogan- 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan and of course, Jai Bay-iman. Doesn't it ring a bell. "Sau mein se Ninyanve Bay-iman, phir bhi mera Bharat mahan". We are definitely livin' on the edge!!

To add *mirch-masala* to it all. film stars too are exercising their hamming skills while campaigning for votes. What the hell! Next we will have *Shri Vajpayee ji* in '*Yugpurush*' and of

course Sonia Gandhi in '*Umrao Jaan*'

So I say, carry this issue when you go to vote and vote for me... (Zaidi for Prime Minister..... DTE).

- Humourlessly Yours.
Azar Zaidi



RINGSIDE VIEW

'When you make your mark in the world, watch out for the guys with erasers'. I read this some time ago, and I feel it could be appropriately applied in my situation. There have been several guys going around trying to suppress my ill-humour, one however happens to be a prefect. But I can't help it, so I do it. Therefore, it's

me once again, straight from Dumraon, your ring-side view correspondent, bringing you the latest from the rings.

Now, to what I am supposed to do. Soccer craze has been on the rise since recent times, and the Welham fields are seeing guys playing in full form. I really hate it when sweaty shirts come stick

to me. But the school soccer team has produced some amazing results under the able guidance of our new captain. Our first match was played against Sports College, and we really fought hard to beat them 4 goals to 1, with **Mukti Shah** really working hard for his hat-trick. Then it was against Khalsa Club, which saw a flurry of goals from both sides. Unfortunately, we ended up on the losing side, with the score being 5 goals to 3 in their favour. Then, it was against Doon School on their grounds, where both teams fought tooth to tooth. But the home team took away the honours by just one goal. The last match was against Children's Academy, where we played a very organised game and thrashed them 4 to 1. This time it was **Mukti** again who took all the credit, showing his deft handling of the ball and scoring all 4 goals.

From grass to cement. The badminton guys have returned from their trip to Ajmer where they fought hard to reach the quarter-finals, before finally being beaten by the home side, but not before giving them a tough fight. It was amazing as these guys had hardly had any practise, yet they produced surprising results.

The IPSC Tournaments are coming up, and the latest from under the rim is that the basketball tournament is to be held in our school. Therefore it is not a surprising thing that our team is

practising so vigorously. Then there are several of our very own Paes and Bhupathis who are really fighting it out to go to Mumbai for the IPSC Tournament. And then there are our squash freaks who have left for Mayo Girls' for their share of the action. Also, the Soccer Councils began on the 1st of this month. So it's a long hard month for all our sportsmen.

The Junior Inter House soccer has begun, with a few matches having already been played. The first was between Ganga and Cauvery, which

was also labelled the 'Clash of the Titans'. Both teams played hard, and the final score remained tied at 3 goals each. The second was between Jamuna and Krishna, where Jamuna surprisingly took the upper hand and also the game 3 goals to 2. Cauvery and Krishna played the next match, which saw Krishna winning by a lone goal. However, it was the last match which could be called a true one-sided affair,

with Ganga thrashing Jamuna, 9 goals to nil. **Atir Ansari** played like an inspired captain and scored 5 goals.

That's all from the sports desk for this fortnight, and till the next issue you shall have to either watch all the matches yourself or listen to the rumours that abound in school.

**Till next time,
Anshuman.**



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