

THINK ABOUT IT

"I never let schooling interfere with my education."

-Samuel Langhorne Clemens

Editorial

Repeated warnings by teachers of the ideo of March, which were ignored by the Caesars of our times, now grip the students in exam frenzy. March, conventionally marked by 'intellectual' labour with Board and promotional exams, is the perfect twilight of winter to make way for a fresh spring. The stubborn winter, overdrawn on our hospitality, inspires another rebellious group, new to the position of seniority and solemnity. They can be seen testing the extent to which they can stretch the boundaries separating the negotiable and the 'non-negotiables'. So, with the nonchalance of an armchair critic, let's observe the humorous holler, as Grade 12th and some of Grade 10th define these boundaries by 'trial and error' while the rest cave in to find enlightenment in the prescribed syllabi.

Rants on exams are commonplace in such settings. In a struggle to deviate from the ordinary I would like to draw your attention to this: Seeing exams as a barometer for excellence is akin to 'missing the forest for the trees', because exams put to test students' proficiency in shutting out distractions and focusing on a given task. The wider implication of this is that we are trained not to produce, but to reproduce. Even when, at its most rudimentary level, education is meant to hone skills that help us survive outside training. Ten thousand years ago, it was hunting mammoths, and today it is the ability to create value. So, ask yourselves, are you making sure you are educating yourself to think independently, an essential

precursor to creating anything? As a teacher bluntly clarified, your education is your responsibility, don't outsource both the process and accountability!

So, to take ownership of this process fundamental to our formative years I feel learning two things are indispensable. Firstly, learning to voice personally formed (or credulously accepted) opinions and exposing them, along with ourselves, to the scrutiny of others. Secondly, writing, be it a personal diary, blog, or poetry. When you lift a pen by choice, you have the mask to reveal your true self liberated of the fear of judgement and just be with yourself for a change. Consequently, building a bridge between our actions and the intuition that causes them. These abilities hold the power to turn the trees into a forest.

These times, where the mind incorrigibly wanders to eccentric places, establish the relevance of the central theme of this issue: Self-reflection, with an article ruminating on feelings of growing up as a girl in an all-boys boarding school, another exploring tabooed insecurities of manhood, apart from an escape in words from the mundane into the magical through imaginative poetry or prose. So, I leave you to turn the pages of lives of strangers to befriend or shun them, either ways peep into your soul through the words of others.

Shresth Toshniwal
Editor-in-Chief

Count Your Courses	02
Enigma of Emotions	05
Word War	06
Literary Affairs Of Welham	08
Lasagne	14

COUNT YOUR CURSES

All our lives, we have ignored whatever happens around us; the good, the bad and the ugly. The passive domination, the unexpected partiality and the various other things that happen around us. We choose to lead our lives just the way they are, without showing a speck of doubt about how imperfect our lives actually may be. This article is some sort of a refutation to the notion of "counting your blessings". So let us for once, count our curses.

It is irrefutable in each and every situation there is always a scope for improvement as there is no limit to perfection, just like happiness and pleasure. It should be the goal of every living being to achieve the state of ultimate happiness and pleasure, but a very important question thus arises- how do we go about achieving this state?

Looking back into the past and patting ourselves on the back is what ultimately plucks reform from its root. We choose to live our lives as an illusion; an illusion that whatever that we have done is for the best and that something good will inevitably come out of it. That is our biggest mistake. It is patting ourselves on the back, which turns bad deeds or inadequate efforts into a curse; a curse which you will have to live with forever. We should be optimistic but in the same breath, always critically analyse our actions and find our shortcomings. It may sound very pessimistic, but if we really want to improve, then identifying whatever is wrong is the way to go. Yet, identification is only the first step, then follows a very complex system of correction.

A correction will not be handed to us on a plate from God or any other higher power. It is you and not anyone else around you who is ultimately going to have to take responsibility and ownership of your actions (unless of

course, you compel others). Translating the realisation of the mistake into practical actions is a correction. Correction is not a passive deed. Simply apologising is not going to correct all that has been wronged. It is something that has to be done in a way that it gives out material results and not only mental Satisfaction.

Optimists will always say that we should just forget the past and not constantly be troubled by something that happened a long time ago. But isn't it also true that if we strive towards correcting that mistake then we will ultimately reach a point where we attain a form of satisfaction which surpasses the kind of satisfaction achieved by simply ignoring what went wrong. Simply ignoring what happened can never going to be a long term solution.

God has blessed us amply, but he has left it up to us to utilise those blessings in a productive way. When we start to eliminate centres of negativity and imperfections around us, then positive change is guaranteed in the long run. Ultimately, it is my opinion, that to be able to achieve something even close to utopia, things will have to be looked through a pessimistic lens. Bringing out the pessimistic perfectionist which is inside every single one of us will eventually better the world around us.

Samanyu Raj Malik
IX



LOVERS UNDER THE SUN



The first time I saw you standing there,
I was somewhat hesitant to fall.
The spring flowers were in bright bloom,
And hell didn't seem that bad at all.

The earth came close to the sun in
summer,
Luckily, we did too.
Minutes became hours and hours
became days,
And yes, my only need was you.

Indeed the monsoon was a little harsh,
For that day when I knocked on your
door,
You couldn't fool me by not opening it,
and I knew things weren't the same as
before.

The toughest time of the year was winter,
Everything had grown so dark and dim.
While the city cheered up as Christmas
came,
My present was seeing you happy with
him.

Luv
IX

In the world of liberty,
A boy lives in chains.
His father lives on the border, soaking the
dastardly bullet's pains.
His mother, a teacher, deals with newborn
children and into puberty.

He liked to imagine, he dreamt a lot,
In no harsh reality could he be free.
But in his deep and dynamic mind,
His sombre dreams miraculously came true.

Glipses from the past,
Glipses from the future,
Flashed by, as if he had a third eye.
His vision saved his gran from becoming stiff and
numb.

He saw his mother falling from a cliff,
It was written in her destiny.
But he didn't believe in its certainty,
For he could write that page himself.

Writing the fate of the world,
His life became bright and lively from gloomy and
dusty.
But the scales of balance had turned
For every life saved, demanded another to be
lost.

So to keep the balance of life,
Death took his father.
A graceful fall for the honour of his nation,
A glorious death in the battlefield.

His world under construction was demolished,
Dreams of the future,
Had become nightmares of the past.
The few days he had left, seemed to be his very
last.

The ending is not always happy,
Everything is not always warm and sappy.
Just like the invisible night cry of the solitary lark,
Sometimes all we have are rainbows in the dark.

Trayambak Pathak
VII

RAINBOWS IN THE DARK

EDUDISS

Under the dreary white roof we sit,
As empty thoughts surround me.
I stare at my book's monotonous bottomless pit,
While the Echoes of empty meaning's surround me.

For almost a century,
Naidu's colourful bangles collided.
But not between knowledge and rather it's penury.,
Are the pages of our textbook divided.

The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell,
Are the chains that bind the spirit of the free.
Will you follow the dropout and jump in a well?
The teacher asks the fish who cannot climb the tree.

History teaches us the mistakes of the past,
Says the aged first estate as our youth wastes away,
Ignore the winds of literacy's lost mast,
Stuff your brain with worthless fact,
And then puke it all away.

The skill of Life should be taught by the father,
For instead of listening to my calling,
I shall practice trigonometry, rather.
Forget you're wasted childhood, just prevent your grades
from falling.

Friendship and love, revenge and heartbreak,
The wings of the youthful down,
the hollow classrooms have decided to take.

Come forth to the real life,
Escape from your childhood fantasy,
Caught in the coursebooks landslide,
No escape from this lethal reality

Who cares if 12 years of school,
Has not taught me how to live and mingle,
At least I can find, the area of a triangle.

Steffi

YOUR DESTINY AWAITS YOU

Life is like clay
Form it as you want,
And ignore when others taunt,
Just work hard and move on

Those who didn't try
They are long gone by,
Cause life is only friends with
Those who work hard

Tricking others into doing your work
Is not cunning but cowardice
Bravery comes with labour
And life condemns the cowards and favours
The brave and the bold

Go forward and make your own step,
Many paths are in front of you
Just choose one
And move the world

Look at life's depth
work hard to achieve your destiny,
And do what it takes
Before your life breaks.

And don't forget that
Life is not predestined,
You write it.
When you do nothing.
Don't criticise it.

-Trayambak Pathak
VII

Enigma of Emotions

It is very easy for a person to ignore, or to not give a damn about what other people say about them. Many who do this think that this is the right thing to do, whereas others who don't believe in this, cannot really do anything about it, so they just let it go. Or maybe, it is not about being able to do anything about it. It is the fact that those people who say bad stuff or criticise them are true, and many people who ignore these taunts don't actually have the courage to stand up to them, accept their faults and move on with their life. Due to the criticism they already face, they will never go and try anything new or maybe try the old ventures again as long as the people who criticise them are around. They feel so intimidated that in presence of these people who they actually do not like, they are forced to sideline the people that they actually like and care for. It is a surprising fact that this is a very common phenomenon and a lot of people face this problem in their daily lives.

This seldom leads to people being unhappy and not setting their priorities, as they would innately like to. Social obligations and peer pressure are the biggest curses of the very interactive and collaborative environments that are promoted throughout the world today. Even though most people believe in these kind of work environments, it is only a matter of time before these issues start surfacing at the macro level.

Priorities are imperative for a person living in a world where everyone has a multitude of tasks at home, school or work. Priorities can be related to work, like assignments and projects, or they can be related to personal life of a person. This includes innumerable possibilities, from choosing social circles, to family and finally to a specific individual. This individual, per say, is probably the most important in that person's life, where he holds priority. It maybe a spouse, child, girlfriend or a best friend. As you know that all humans have expectations of the people around

them, regardless of whether they have ever been fulfilled or not. Anyone who says that he/she does not have expectations from anyone they are close to or want to be close to are, in fact, simply lying. These expectations can range from buying exuberant gifts to little acts of affection that mean the world. It can even be as simple as someone giving or wanting ample amount of time with a person who is his/her priority. But as fate has it, most people face disappointment in this regard. They fail to express the fact that these people are the ones they want present in their life and regret it for most of the time afterwards. This results in a situation where people stop having expectations, well at least consciously. They start being afraid of affection due to their past experiences and start fearing the possibility of going through the pain of regret again. They are afraid of the fact that they will prioritise someone who may not prioritise them.

This brings out a rather persisting problem people, especially teenagers face today; the attention problem. The fact that people don't understand the importance of showing emotions like appreciation, gratitude, and sympathy to other people, most of these people are deprived of these emotions in their daily life. This makes them crave these emotions from other people, by doing stuff that they otherwise would never have done. By attention problems, I don't necessarily mean the exaggerated attention seeking gimmicks or things of that sort; all I mean to put across is that there is a general lack of emotion (or at least the ability to handle them) in an average person's (especially a boy's) life. According to me, the only way of dealing with something like this is understanding the importance of various intricacies of life and trying to live up to what is expected or required by the people who matter to you; so that they would do the same for you.

Sarthak Tayal
XII Science

WORD

“Violence Is A Legitimate Mean of Protest”

For

Henry David Thoreau once said “That government is best which governs the least”. Recent times suggest that the foundations of authoritarian governments and so-called Big States have already been laid down. The world has witnessed who go beyond constitutional boundaries time and again and also what happens to them in the longer run.

Governments are set up not to control us and limit us, but to guide the people towards a better path. When they fail in this very basic duty of theirs, then some sort of protest is inevitable. Sometimes this protest is peaceful but sometimes the situation is desperate, and desperate times require desperate measures. When someone does not listen to you, you need to shout to be heard. Similarly, when a government does not listen to you, then you need to protest in a way that piques the people’s interest. That is violence.

Violence is the ultimate tool of protest. It is not a cause of political instability, it is a result. It is the final expression of dissatisfaction. Non-violence and peace can only go to a certain length, it is only violence which can bring about real social change for it is not possible that a government does not react towards violent protest. Nothing major, in the modern world, can be solved by non- violence. What proposers of violence as means of protest want to say

is that when the situation is such, then we should do something that can actually solve it.

My friends from the other side will say that violence causes physical harm to people and property, to that I can only say that to achieve something great, and to alter the very social order, sacrifices have to be made. It is almost detrimental for the smooth functioning of a nation’s polity that some sorts of checks be placed on the rulers. When those checks fail miserably, then it is only violence which can do the needful.

My opposition will also say that we are acting like cavemen. But when the government acts like a band of cavemen, then I think that we should not remain so indifferent. Lastly, governments, if not kept in check, always find ways of becoming authoritarian, to prevent our world from becoming a dystopia, it is our, the people’s duty to protest and keep them under scrutiny. Let us not fail ourselves.

Samanyu Raj Malik
IX



WAR

“Violence Is A Legitimate Mean of Protest”

Against

It is a great misfortune that throughout the course of human history, the only measures that have caused a change in the social and cultural fabric of the world have been violent. And it will be an equally big misfortune when today when we have mechanisms in place that serve as mediators and negotiators or as platforms for dissent, protest and disobedience and despite that, we legitimize violence as a means of protest. Before I delve into laying my constructive case, I'll characterize certain aspects of motion. When we talk about legitimizing violence as a means of protest, we are only talking about violence as a means of protest to only oppression by a bigger community of a smaller group. Because people will not resort to violence as a means of protest to anything random things. Only in the rarest of the rare cases do people actually resort to violence for protesting. Secondly, when we talk about dissent and protest, we are automatically only talking about democratic settings and quid pro quo establishments. As only in democracy do citizens actually enjoy the right to protest altogether. The proposition may say that violence as a tool is pretty effective to bring about social change. But the effectiveness of something is not the only parameter that we consider while we instal it into the society. For example testing pharmaceutical drugs on humans would be a great bane for the industry but we don't do that because it severely violates human dignity. Public affairs today are guided by reason and ethic, so the presumable principal idea of the opposition's

debate, that violence can change social structures faster does not hold true. So the entire burden of justifying violence as legitimate, even as an idea in the first place, is on the proposition. We, on the other hand argue, that for a means of protest to be legitimate it has to fulfill certain moral obligations also, apart from being just effective. For something to be legitimate in the society, it shouldn't just be guided by utility or its efficiency, instead it needs to be evaluated on morals too. If we allow violence to be a legitimate means of protest, we are allowing people to protest in a way which can infringe other people's rights. While in a democracy the most fundamental thing that we provide is a substantial number of state-protected rights and thus, by doing the aforementioned, we are dampening the very spirit of democracy. We, in a democracy, can only expand our bubble of rights as long as it does not burst someone else's bubble of rights. This means that we can do whatever we want to until and unless we are not infringing or violating other people's rights. And by allowing violence as a means of protest we are doing exactly that. Therefore we as a population of rational, sentient human beings cannot and will not allow violence to be legitimized. For the only that distinguishes us from animals is sentience and obligatory social organization

Aarav Upadhyaya

IX



Literary Affairs Of Welham

WHY STUDY WHEN YOU CAN WASTE TIME?

Under the fluorescent lamp, the fingers of the lithe youth drummed against the rim of his desk. His blank states at the book as empty as his father's words of praise for him. He once again proceeded to tingly push away his unruly hair to regain what vision was left to him by the mercy of his almost closed eyes. He proceeded to utter a prayer to whomever was up there, pleading that he remember the dichotomy of Latin and Greek that was hiding thrown at him from the piercing white confines of his textbook.

He was a lithe youth, his body in its youthful prime, slim and trim, fit as a racehorse. The lad was unable to comprehend why, but this seemed to evict envy out of a lot of his peers. Another thing he was unable to comprehend was how the various methods of taking out the Lowest possible multiple of two numbers was relevant to anything that he would ever do. He hated, with all his heart, the man who decided to buy 60 watermelons at the market, and the man who was unable to figure out what was so unique about the number of a taxi. Of some parts of his dreary textbook, he understood the importance of. But all that accompanied it was a sham. He had repeatedly cornered his balding professor with such questions, but the scholarly men of great academic renown had just shaken their heads and given him critic answers, ranging from the development of logic (that was certainly untrue. If that much effort was actually spent on teaching everyone logic, the world would have been a much better place by now) or the use in higher examinations. The youth hurriedly damned the stream of questions that were rushing out of his mind. No need for wondering how the information one spent almost half of their life learning was rendered irrelevant the moment he landed a job?

'I'm not meant for this' was a battering ram that refused to leave alone the gates of his high castle of concentration alone. Giving up, he remembered the conversation that he was having with his friends the other day. Why did a student's entire life depend on how less he was able to sleep before the exam? Why was it that young people were deemed not responsible enough to drive a car, but fifteen year olds with a miniscule amount of knowledge of what the future will hold for them is supposed to take the most important decision of his life when he is choosing a stream? Why was it that information that was forgotten 48 hours after the exam worth the innumerable hours of childhood that are lost though our the life of a student.

In an age where such data was available at the touch of a finger, who decides what I spend a quarter of my life memorizing should be almost nothing different from what my parents know? What was the assurance that good marks meant a good life. Look at the employment news in the bollywood capital of india!

But that was enough about the woes of the youth. What was important was the next election!!

Oh sorry. The next Exam!!!

'Concentrate boy, concentrate!'. The teen forced is glossy eyes back to the melancholic pages of the dreaded book. He pictured his mother as she cheered him up as the report card was read out aloud by his ever disappointed father. He imagined his displeased and exhausted father as he returned from his tiring job and callously glazed over the entire notebooks he had filled with things that some old books in some office somewhere in the elite political world thought was essential for his development. He remembered all the

times he had ignored the call of the blossoming world around him, and had silenced his heart and put it in the drawer with his phone.

'ENOUGH!!' he exclaimed, as he threw away the god-forsaken textbook. He was a fish that belonged to the open sea, and right now he was tired of being told to climb up a tree. But like every good student, when he remembered what the struggles of a dropout were, how a rebel survived living on the streets, his will to fight the system and his resolve to face his family both

crumbled. Humbled, he soberly went up and picked up his book.

Another soul lousy to the repressive system, he was another eagle of imagination and talent that was trapped in the cage of confining textbook material, and the dreaded 'syllabus'. After all, what would people say?

Mrinank
IX

Clubs: Integral Parts of A Welhamite's Life

Welham, a place where one's potential is closely examined. For fulfilling this purpose, we have lots of co-curricular activity based clubs. These clubs offer a student the platform to show what his capabilities are as well as how better he could be. These club meetings are generally held in the co-scholastic schools as part of the schedule. But, it goes without saying that all of this takes a lot of extra effort from a student's perspective.

The problem arises when other students cannot respect this gruelling effort of theirs and demotivate them by saying that they are just wasting time. They do not seem to understand just how beneficial the enrolment in these clubs is and the impact it can have on a student's personality. They think that these clubs bring stress and burden to their lives and that nothing productive comes out of it.

The purpose of my writing this article is to put some sense into the people who demotivate their batchmates for their extra effort and toil. Let me tell you that these clubs are the pedestals which will lead you to bear the mantle of a proud Welhamite. Only a boy who knows how to do innumerable things appropriately and can manage to do so much in a day can be called a Welhamite.

Being a part of any club with sincerity and effort

can take you somewhere you never imagined. The motive of these clubs is not only to push students to greatness but also to make them realise how time can be used efficiently and productively. You also get an ample amount of opportunities which will take your capabilities to the next level. Moreover, you gain a certain level of respect from your seniors as well as learn to hold responsibilities.

My fellow Welhamites, please realise the importance of this in time, so that you can do so much more! Once the opportunity has passed, you can do nothing but hold your head in your hands and curse the ignorance in your former self. These clubs sow the seed in you which over the years will make you grow up to be a proud Welhamite.

Aditya Gupta
VII

Ver's'es

PATH TO PEACE

Two poems. One heading. You be the Judge and Jury

And often in anger,
The unrevealed truth is revealed
Not swords create wounds
But the soul unhealed

And the nerves full of curiosity
Look here and there to cease
The blood that must be led to
The sacred path to peace

Not medicines are helpful
No doctors may assist
And the shadow will cry out
To hold onto a wrist

With wars being fought within
And tears crossing the crease
Your heart will wander to look for
The sacred path to peace

Words when acting like arrows
Will pierce through the skin
Thereafter ask yourself
What made you commit this sin

And I, who was in pain
Would still look upon you with ease
And request you to walk together
On the sacred path to peace.

-Prakhar Dixit

X

They saw husbands and fathers, leave hastily
With an assurance of nothing but uncertainty.
To fight on the front lines,
To protect the motherland's pride.

Weeks and Months passed, no word came.
Who came back, said nothing were ashamed
Of the army's collapse, and feared the regime's
displeasure.
However, still hoped that the war would bring the
great peace.

Living was just a gamble,
Hoping to not find the enemy troops, which ambled.
The children and the women kept to the shadows,
To escape the agony and pain.

Soon, conflict and misery plagues the land,
Guns and death, went hand in hand.
Sorrow filled the women, with babies gutted,
As food and ecstasy was scare.

The mothers comforted the younger,
Who went bed, drowning in hunger.
Only a dream of peace, kept them afloat.
Believing the regime's lies, which assured peace.

They believed ignorance was bliss,
To stay away from heartbreak's kiss.
They listened to what the regime said
That they were on the path to peace.

For them war was peace,
And peace was war.

-Viraj Lohia

IX

TO BE A GIRL IN A BOYS' BOARDING SCHOOL...

A girl studying in a boys boarding school. How often do we come across such a statement? The answer is close to never, and as surprising and unreal as it sounds, it is true. I come from this background and wish to share this unique experience through this article. Right off the bat, it is pretty obvious that studying in such an environment is starkly different from being in a co-ed school. The advantage of being someone, who explicitly stands out, is that there is no dearth of opportunities. You get highlighted in a group as there are hardly any girls here.

The difference in the environment is significant. In co-ed schools boys and girls interact on a daily basis, but compared to boarding schools conversations between the opposite sexes here is less conspicuous. However, unity in schools which comprise a single gender is more palpable. The students tend to have closer bonds among them. I, as a girl, have noticed that the boys in Welham are very open with each other, hence discuss various topics ranging from everyday stuff to the very unusual and sometimes obnoxious. They range from simple problems to relationship advice, which, despite not being absolutely accurate, is of great importance in forming a bond. Such discussions in co-ed schools are considered repulsive because their society deems it inappropriate to discuss something so personal in public discussions. However, due to so much trust among peers, students in boarding schools develop an ability to express their feeling better which I believe is a very important skill, instilling in them confidence required later in life. We can also incorporate various opinions into our thought process and feel more comfortable in knowing how being vulnerable is normal and that we are not alone.

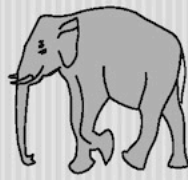
Coming to the second part, I have also noticed that boys hesitate to stand near any of the few girls in school. In

contradiction, this is not what you see in co-ed schools. Gender biases are common and so is ignoring some people. It seems rude, but, sooner or later you grow accustomed to it. Boys stereotyping girls is also another topic which needs to be deliberated upon. They expect the girls to huddle up and stay together. This is totally wrong as you start losing yourself as an individual, people only judge you as a group, and in the process, our identities as individuals are lost. This somewhat takes away the choice of our company from us which hampers growth. The question that I am almost always faced with is, whether is it weird to be in an all-boys boarding school. Contrary to popular belief, I feel that it isn't weird at all. The only difference between the two genders is merely of physical appearance, they have a lot in common psychologically. However, I get left out more often than not, but in the longer run, it has helped me grow as a boarder, and I feel that in the process, I have certainly learned more than any common boarders.

To sum up, being different opens doors to more opportunities. In a school like ours, teachers want girls to come up and take opportunities, but most of them are scared because they are only a handful but I have learnt to be different, I go and seize those opportunities that come my way. For example, the Global Round Square Conference that was recently hosted by our school. However, where there are pros, there are cons as well. I have learnt to handle situations when I am alone and am misunderstood because of being different. Whenever the thought of questioning my decision of doing something different by studying here, I think of the wise words of Robert Frost. "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less travelled by and that has made all the difference."

Manvi Makkar
VIII





THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

CAN YOU BE WHOEVER YOU WANT TO BE.

*“Is this the real life?
Is this just fantasy?
Caught in a landslide
No escape from reality
Open your eyes
Look up to the skies and see!”*

-Her Majesty, Queen

In today's fast moving world, where most of us are blindly following the mass belief, where satisfaction is a mere variable which changes as we move ahead, where recognition is so sought out that identity is a price you're willing to pay; do we ever stop and question? Do we ever question ourselves, our behaviour and our beliefs? (The above set of lyrics from the Bohemian Rhapsody also highlight this missing enlightenment in our society, where people are carrying on with their lives without ever pausing and asking any question regarding the meaning of their lives.)

There is probably no day in the calendar when we get up and not pass judgements about others or not give out our perception of what should be done and what should not. I'd rather say that it is such an integral part of our routines now that not doing it would seem unnatural. In this whole 'gossip' as people call it, seldom do they ponder upon their own self, their own identity, their own thoughts. They say, thoughts become your words, words your actions, actions your habits, habits your character and character your destiny. We keep hearing about the power of the sub-conscious mind and thinking positive, but do we ever try to regulate our thoughts, can we?

From the very day we gain consciousness we are told what is success for us, what should happiness

comprise for us and the meaning of our lives is given to us in accordance with the rules and ways of the modern society. The modern society which worships growth and derives its morals from the religion of capitalism and humanism. In this world of competition and moral instability, individual thoughts and the development of thought process in individuals at a young age becomes ever more imperative for people to have secure and strong identities. When education systems and societies only focus on academic growth and career related development, children lose their own touch, they stop asking questions and as the it has been said above, they get caught in a landslide where the scope of opening their eyes is nearly zero. This leads to people being comfortable in following what the belief of the majority, which to a kind of herd mentality in society which eventually turns out to be problematic. This also leads to people trying to co-relate their traits and group beliefs to larger identities. For example, a conservative man who does not allow his daughter to get married by her choice may justify his actions by making it a value of an Indian, which is not true but there is a huge probability that his society may accept that justification, and therefore being conservative here is being made something that Indian would do leading to more Indians being conservative.

Although the modern society requires individuals to not question this commitment to growth and needs them to be herd minded to an extent, in the end the question that arises is that who is going to evaluate the actions of our generation if people stop questioning 'the Rat race'. Today even though scientists and environmentalists go on about the impact of economic growth on ecological destruction no capitalist no matter how much educated says that, "This is it, now I'm going to be satisfied with my money and try to prevent ecological chaos." Today our CEOs and politicians are depending (rather

confidently) on a potential future invention which will miraculously save the world from ecological destruction and if not, well the magical hand of the market will certainly manage something.

Talking about closer home, in our school too, as new students join, they keep joining the 'race' for the array of awards and accolades our school has to offer. Every common trait however unacceptable is given the Welhamite tag and justified. Success is nothing but a blazer full of badges and individual thought is only discussed

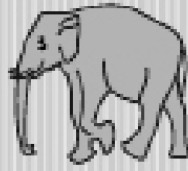
in dreams (or sometimes in the judgements made about other people). The value of depth and personal opinion ceases to exist and all we care about is filling checkboxes and filling applications.

So I end with reiterating my initial thought, Open your eyes, Look up to the skies and see!

Devraj Singhanian
Editor
The Oliphant

WELHAM NOW

- We bid adieu to the riverside block and the erstwhile music block and welcome the new music block at the Toad Hall.
- The Inter House Arthur Hughes Middle School English Debate was held on the 7th of February, 2019. Jamuna house emerged victorious, Viraj Lohia of Jamuna house was adjudged the Best Speaker, Ishman Kohli of Ganga house was adjudged the Most Promising Speaker, and Shubhankar Dhulia of Jamuna house was adjudged the Best Interlocutor.
- **The Graduation Ceremony was held on the 13th of February, 2019. The following were the key awards:**
 - Principal's Commendation - Vedant Dewan and Prateek Tibrewal
 - Award for Service to the Community- Abhay Singh Dhillon
 - Sportsperson of the Year- Saurav Bidhuri and Harshul Bhatia
 - Kataria Trophy for Best All-Rounder- Saurav Bidhuri
 - Gulab Ramchandani Award for Gentleman of the Year- Saurav Bidhuri
- Military History workshops were conducted by Mr. Shiv Kunal Verma for classes 7, 8 and 9 on the 2nd and 3rd February and on the 1st and 2nd March respectively.
- National Science day was celebrated in the school on the 28th of February, 2019. The school was enlightened by the presence of Mr. G.S. Rautela who conducted interactive sessions on Cryogenics, Semi-conductors and air pressure.
- The Department of IT organised the Inter-House Gaming Competition for Middle School from March 5 to March 7, 2019. Jamuna house emerged victorious amongst a high level of the competition and intense Counter Strike battles.
- Mega Spellathon was organised by the English Department on the 9th March. A group of boys from Grade 12 escorted by Mrs Monica Chandel visited an Aasraa Trust establishment to distribute Dengue Kits.
- The School was declared second runners up in the Northern Region of the country for Behar India Initiative.



LASAGNE

WELHAM LOGIC

- If you are part of The Last Man Standing, then you are entitled to everything the school has to offer.
- If a senior calls you, it is a 'reporting' by default.
- Timings do not exist for lunch.
- Socials always have to end with dinner. (Or only dinner for some)
- If you didn't win the elections, then there was something shady happening.
- A single boy under an umbrella is a rich-kid.

Those Ones...

- Sarthak Tayal: An inspiration before its time often seems like a rebellion.
- Rajveer Sikka: The average goal of a person's life is to be in a 'comfortable' place, but that does not necessarily require success.
- Devraj Singhania: It is ordinary to love the beautiful but it is beautiful to love the ordinary.
- Pavit Singh Kapoor: I don't work 'under' anyone...but only in the underworld.
- Grade 12 to Mr. Dayamay Banerjee: Sir, why don't you become a professor in a college?
Mr. Dayamay Banerjee: That is because I like playing as a centre-half, not a centre-forward.
- Dev Agrwal: I don't care about the zeroes in my exams, only the zeroes in my bank account.

RUMOUR HAS IT

- Devraj Singhania is considering stepping down from his position as the Jamuna House Captain. (Me before You.....)
- Mrs. Monica Chandel is reportedly getting an office in the new extension of the Principal's Block. (Behtar India....Behtar...)
- Aryan Garg is lobbying for a badge for the Under-Secretary-General.
- Subway is getting biometric verification for latecomers. (Bobby out?)
- Pradutt Ramesh has got himself exempted from each and every exam this year with the help of a certain someone. (HOA??)

Seperated at Birth

Kartikeya Agarwal	Varys (Game of Thrones)
Pavit Singh Kapoor and Rajveer Sikka	Arthur and Tommy Shelby (Peaky Blinders)
Raj Kush	Ranbir Kapoor (Ae Dil Hai Mushkil)
Anish Aditya Prasad	Adonis Creed (Wannabe)
Shlok Garg	Dumbo
Tushar Gupta	Alan Harper (Two and a half men)
Ganga 10	F.A.W
Mukul Singhal	Viraj Lohia

Through the keyhole

- **Chirag Bansal:** Juniors are supposed to take favours, not do them. (High benchmarks indeed, Mr. School Captain)
- **Shresth Toshniwal:** Bro, it is too conventional, I think you should add some invention to it. (Some level of "innovation", eh?)
- **Sarthak Tayal:** Oye I'm warning you, don't you dare act 'Chinky' with me!
- **Devraj Singhania to Vishwas Dubey:** Are you straight? Vishwas Dubey to **Devraj Singhania:** No! You are.
- **Anish Aditya:** Are you coming for lunch to Piccolo?
Shaurya Poddar: It's depend...I have a Bohemian Rapcity scheduled for the afternoon.

Ever Wonder Why?

- Dev Agarwal has been seen with a spoken English guide for the past two weeks. (Investiture lessons)
- Harshjyot Singh no longer has any interest in any kind of socials, whatsoever. (Courtesy: the Twelve Apostles)
- Grade 10 students were looking utterly disappointed after their Mathematics Board Examination. ('Different' types of papers.....)
- Mr. Dayamay Banerjee and Mr. Ajay Kailikhura have been avoiding each other as of late.

What's In

What's Out

Studying for Compartment Exams

Studying for Normal Exams

Cricket Practice

Basketball Practice

Loner Gang

S.K.D.

The Principal's Block

The Music Block

Emotional Intelligence

Mindfulness

Pradutt Ramesh

Manshvin Kartikeya

Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief:
Shresth Toshniwal

Editors:
Sarthak Tayal
Devraj Singhania
Chirag Bansal

Creative Editor:
Ujjwal Goenka

Cartoonist:

Gaurang Bhati
Editorial Team:
Sannidhya Agarwal
Sanshray Ghorawat
Shreyansh Jindal

Correspondents:
Mrinank Chandar
Aarav Upadhayaya
Viraj Lohia
Samanyu Malik

Teacher Incharge:
Mr. Saurav Sinha

Special Thanks:
Mr. Prashant Arora
Mr. Girish Prasad