

Vol. XXXXIV  
May 2016

# Oliphant

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

## THINK ABOUT IT...

“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken”

- Oscar Wilde

## EDITORIAL

**W. E. L. H. A. M:** That's the way we spell it!  
That's the way we yell it! WELHAM!!

This is how we concluded the Golden Jubilee Basketball tournament by winning it for the fifth consecutive year this time. The school was seen cheering fervently for their team in yet another classic display of basketball. I would like to congratulate the basketball team for their exceptional performance and at the same time wish the hockey team luck for their Kandhari Memorial tournament. I hope that the proverb 'Well begun is half done' serves appropriately for our sporting prowess this year.

The spring festival made everyone work head over their heels and many were not able to recuperate for almost a week after the tiring schedule. Similar was the case for our Oliphant Board members. So here we have tried to come up with an issue that serves as a breather and helps you take a break from the monotony of the daily routine. Articles range from topics like 'Virtual Reality' to some experimental ones like 'The Light Beneath the Basket'. Maybe the philosophy attempted by some of our students actually helps others feel light and rejuvenated!

The End of Term Examination is around the corner and I know how tedious it is to prepare for one more exam only a month after giving your finals. But this is something that we cannot really escape, so best of luck for scoring top grades and with the escalation in the distinction criterion it is only right that everyone studies seriously. The determination

to take out The Oliphant fortnightly has served as the right impetus for taking out this issue and I would like to commend the Editorial Team for the immense hard work that they have put in to give shape to this release.

I just hope that the fantastic performances shown by our players in their respective games serve as a motivation for everyone else. Sports define a boarding school culture and that culture will be lost if people lose their interest and stop realising the importance of sports. I would say that the flame is still burning but it's not calm, and it can be at any minute that we lose the light that has been guiding Welhamites for a very long time now.

That's it with the Editorial this time. I do hope that everything that people do around you only inspires you and guides you towards reaching the goal that you have always aspired to. I would say it again and believe me I say it with complete conviction that every Welhamite is a gold mine of potential. But it is only for you to decide whether you think you are capable of unleashing yourself into the void that sets you free and helps you know yourself as we can grow only if we have learnt to let go and here I would like to quote Mitch Albom who said these beautiful words in his book, Tuesdays with Morrie "Detachment doesn't mean you don't let the experience penetrate you. On the contrary, you let it penetrate you fully. That's how you are able to leave it."

**Prabhapaar Singh Batra**  
*Editor in Chief*

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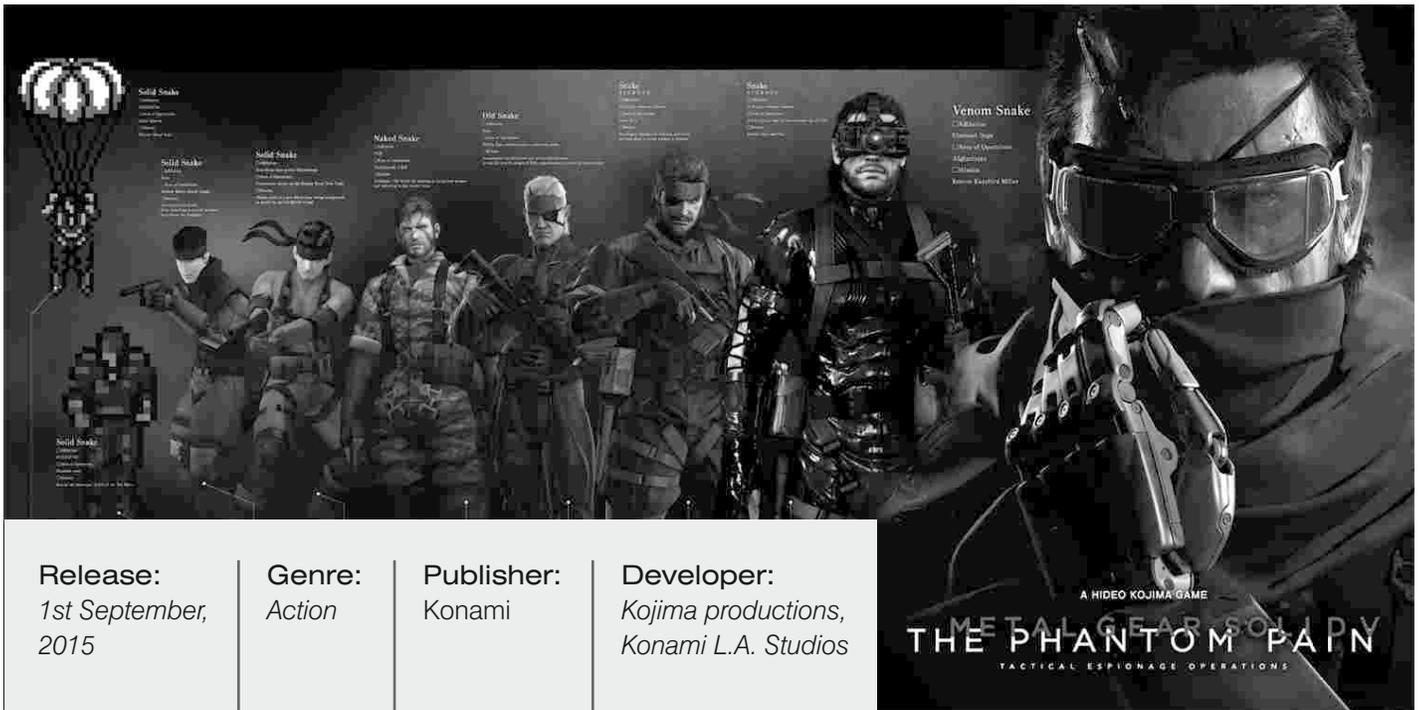
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**GAME REVIEW**



<b>Release:</b> <i>1st September, 2015</i>	<b>Genre:</b> <i>Action</i>	<b>Publisher:</b> <i>Konami</i>	<b>Developer:</b> <i>Kojima productions, Konami L.A. Studios</i>
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**TACATICAL ESPIONAGE EXCELLENCE**

Right from the moment you're told to get on your horse and explore the Afghan countryside, Phantom Pain feels intimidating, almost overpowering in terms of the freedom its open world offers and the number of concepts it expects you to grasp. It's almost too much. But what initially appeared to be an overly dense tangle of features to fiddle with unraveled into a well integrated set of meaningful game play systems that provided me with a wealth of interesting decisions to make.

More importantly though, you're free to solve missions your own way because of how flexible the Phantom Pain's core game play is. The transition between careful stealth and going loud is a lot more organic than in any previous game, and getting aggressive never feels 'wrong', unlike it often does in numerous other stealth mode games. If someone spots you, you get a few seconds of slow motion (reflex time) to take them down silently and prevent a full combat alert. Not only does this create a lot of tense, sweet looking movie moments, but it also gives you the freedom to take calculated

risks with room for more exciting mistakes. Even when things get out of hand, missions progress accordingly. Your carefully planned sneaking mission might turn into you chasing down a fleeing target on a horseback, or a white-knuckle show-down with an enemy gunship instead, but going "off-script" isn't a one-way ticket to the failure and dashed hopes.

The fact that it's relatively painless to experiment and get a little (or even extremely) aggressive makes playing with the many fun toys Phantom Pain provides a literal blast. I can call in a gunship for close air support, designate targets for a massive sleeping gas bomb, or have a customizable combat walker (like the one in Star Wars) dropped in for me to wreak havoc with. Gunplay feels responsive, direct, and so very right, and I can use all this stuff guilt-free since it doesn't completely tank my mission ratings. However, where the game's game play systems are far richer and meatier than any series has ever seen its story feels insubstantial and underdeveloped by comparison. It opens confidently, ready to fully embrace the techno-fantasy, live action military anime identity that Metal Gear has been courting for the better part

of the two decades. This spectacular opening establishes a mood and a bundle of plot-related questions that are more or less abandoned until the time comes, some 30-60 hours later. (depending upon which answers you're seeking and how you play).

The Phantom Pain is the kind of game I thought would never exist, one where every minute's game play detail has a true purpose. Its lack of story focus is sure to be divisive for the Metal Gear faithful, but the resulting emphasis on the story and the new tales of espionage action make it my favourite in the series. There certainly have been sandbox action games that have given me a bigger world to roam, more icons to chase on my minimap but none has pushed me to adapt, plan, and improvise the way this game does. Metal Gear Solid 5: The Phantom Pain doesn't just respect my intelligence as a player; it expects it of me, putting it in a league that few others occupy.

**My rating- 8.5/10**

**Shivansh Sood,**  
IX-B

## GAME REVIEW

**Title:**

Just Cause 3

**Developer:**

Avalanche Studios

**Publisher:**

Square Enix

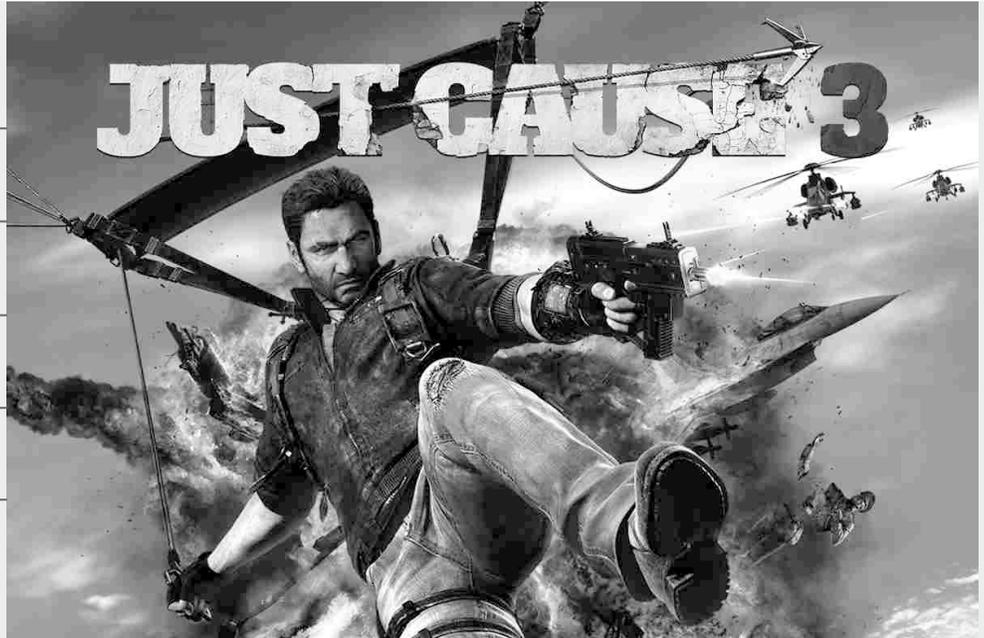
**Platform:**

PC, XBOX One, PS4

**Rating:**

78/100

“Is it painted red? Blow it up! Why? Just Cause!”



Avalanche Studios has done it. The popular Just Cause series has been taken to the 'next level' with bigger explosions, more guns, better vehicles and varied challenges. Trouble ensues when Rico comes to his beautiful homeland, Medici (that opening sequence blew my head off!), which is under the military dictatorship of General Sebastiano Di Ravello, the hotheaded antagonist set on world domination through his monopoly on bavarium, a powerful mineral with nuclear properties. For those unaware about Just Cause, it is a third-person shooter franchise, revolving around Rico Rodriguez, a Spanish man who likes to have fun by destroying stuff.

Being Just Cause, the main objective is always secured by blowing up as many buildings, towers, cars, tanks, ships, helicopters as you can see (which, for our convenience, have been marked in bright red). As a nearly indestructible one-man army, Rico (with some help from a weak, but large rebel army) will go around knocking down just about anything in sight in order to liberate towns or destroy military bases, and it

doesn't matter if a few civilians die in the process. This demolition frenzy is occasionally interrupted by (optional, but helpful) challenges varying from land, air and sea races to killing a bunch of Di Ravello's minions to destroying big buildings using unstable bavarium. Completing challenges powers an upgrade system in which you can upgrade weapons, vehicles and your flying abilities.

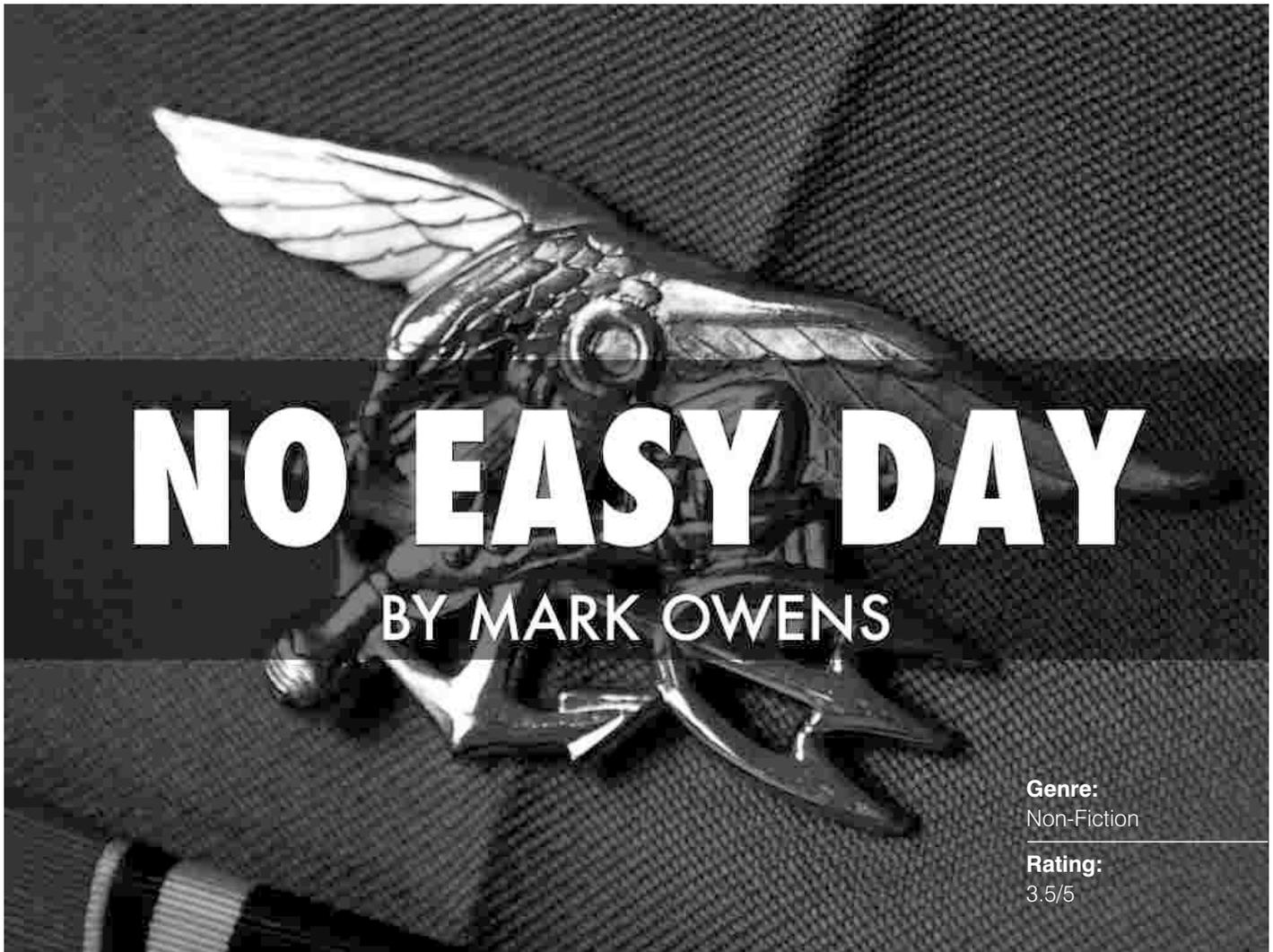
You can get hooked after just a few missions but the 'kill-destroy-liberate' cycle can soon become pretty unvarying and monotonous. To make things a little diverse, the 'devs' added an ignominious map, which is twice the size of GTA V. After liberating the two small islands, you move to the mainland, but that only means you need to spend more time searching for towns and military outposts, which can be both appealing and delightful, because even after spending hours flying in a wing suit, you cannot get used to the beauty of Medici.

New features include a wing suit, which you can use to drop flying kicks on unsuspecting enemies by tethering to their backs, a sleek upgrade system that

can provide convenient perks, over 80 vehicles (imposing sports cars, monster trucks, jets), and the best of all, multiple tethers. They will be your best friend in game. Now, instead of just tethering once, you can tether multiple things, like several enemies to an exploding barrel, enemies to enemies, helicopters to buildings, helicopters to bombs, helicopters to helicopters, cars to helicopters... The possibilities are endless.

The beautiful scenery of the islands of Medici coupled with great graphics, thanks to the Avalanche Engine; make for long, scenic flights in your wing suit (until you face-plant into the side of a mountain). Just Cause 3's enchanting scenery, dynamic explosions, wacky physics and gigantic map overshadow the repetitive gameplay and dull story. If you like blowing stuff up, or hope to play something like GTA with more freedom and explosions, and less cityscape and story, you will absolutely relish this game.

-Armaan Suhail  
XI Commerce

**BOOK REVIEW**

'Allahu-Akbar'. This book starts with the conclusive phrase of Bin Laden's numerous speeches after 9/11. This novel is written by a former U.S. Navy S.E.A.L. under a different pen name who narrates and declassifies some very disturbing techniques used by the army of the U.S.A. The infamous 3rd Degree phrase comes from the 3rd phase of selections of U.S. Navy S.E.A.L.'s. The author interestingly narrates all that went into making Operation GERONIMO (hunting Bin Laden) a success. The reader understands the entire training and technicalities of the various operations

worldwide against terror while flipping through the first quarter of the book. All the information obtained to find Osama has been given in sharp detail, which intrigues the reader even more. Observing the wanted terrorist roaming his garden every night through a satellite, trying to get samples of blood of the family through vaccination programs and many other instances go a step further into explaining this very crucial mission. Finally after quite a long period of reading we are put into a scene with 2 SEAL teams and a K-9 unit who are going to raid a compound in Abbottabad in Pakistan. After some

glitches and errors the soldiers are successful in terminating Osama and his brothers in the huge compound and all this time the Pakistan authorities remain unaware of all the action. This book is the first time a U.S. personnel has revealed information about any of its operations. All the information already provided in the news and the Internet fails to provide such a detailed account of this operation. This action packed book with overflowing secrets is a must for any reader.

**Abhay Singh Dhillon**  
IX-B

## DO SCHOOLS PUT TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON KIDS?

Now a days everyone wants to be better than the others and nobody wants to be second. Children want to score higher and parents want their kids to be amongst toppers. For that, parents spend lakhs of money on school, studies and coaching classes. There is a great increase amongst students of spirit of competitiveness and they sometimes work very hard to prove themselves.

Gone are the days when, Sunday and holidays used to ring bells of fun and joy for the kids. All of the fun and enjoyment is lost as kids are busy in completing the homework and preparing for tests and examinations which have become a part of our daily routine thus leaving no free time for the kids to enjoy in holidays as such. We see weekly and fortnightly increase in the level of tests and they add up to exams. They are very busy

preparing for them and this causes extensive pressure on the minds of the kids. At every step, children are suffering from high-level stress.

Childhood, which is a juncture of amusement and relaxation, has now become an old story. The education system is snatching the pleasant moments of kids and substituting it with the weight of study, which the delicate brains are incapable of handling at the moment. Parents are also not considerate about what their kids will lose as "today will never come back in their lives". The hassle free moments of childhood are non-existent.

With very busy schedule of school hours, evening extra classes, tuitions, tests and homework, children are often busier than their working parents. In some cases, students are forced to study subjects that they don't have even

the slightest inclination for all because of pressure from parents and teachers.

It also scraps off recreation periods like physical education and co-curricular activities. The burdened children hardly get any time to do arts, crafts, relax and rejuvenate.

There is an urgent need to strike a night balance between studies and enjoyment. That means a balance between quality and quantity education. Schools should encourage kids to go ahead in life but not only work. The schools should use innovative strain free techniques to teach students. They should understand that their aim is to educate them not pressurize them, smoldering their actual talents and making them book worms.

**Tanish Shukla,**  
9-D

# FREEDOM

Often in history the demand to be free, or more precisely the 'need' to be free is counted as the key rule to the formation of a democracy. But this big thought of freedom, as we often notice, developed through mere notice of daily suppression of an individual's rights.

In the words of Aulus Hurler 'Man is an amphibian who lives simultaneously in two worlds, the given and the one love made' the world of matter, life and consciousness, and the world of symbol.

When you want something you take measure for acquiring it. But, in the consequences your want may or may not be fulfilled. It is because your approach to your wants makes a major difference. If our approach is correct, that is, if we do what is true, we will attain our wants. However a want has to be reasonable. If a person asks another what his want would be, the latter would hurl at you the names of his desires. But what a reasonable want is, is wholly different for this. A 'right' want would be the one which benefits the society in general.

Freedom is one such want. However we cannot deny the subjectivity of it. Freedom has its terms of understanding and these could be political, economical, societal etc. But to receive such a thought implantation you must have a receptive state of mind. Most of us listen through a screen of resistance. We are screened with prejudices, whether religious, spiritual, psychological or scientific. To acquire such thoughts one should be in Free State of mind. It is then when you will start to receive such true words.

It is J Krishnamurthy who said, "Truth cannot be given to you by somebody". Thus it is you who acquires it. To discover such ideas, there must be a state of mind in which there is direct perception. The following note can have the words to express my feelings towards the society.

"to want to be free is to be free". I would only urge the society to get rid of this screen of resistance so that at large it benefits the society.

-Shubh Badhwar

# IMPRESSIONS OF A FOREIGN VISITOR

**I asked the boys from class seven at my table at lunch time what I should write and they told me to tell that Welham prepares them for life. Their impression is based on having been here for three years already. What little can I add after a visit of only two weeks?**

From the minute I entered the school gates I have been looked after thoroughly by the whole school. Your Principal teacher Ms Bindra met me on the evening I arrived and has ensured that teaching staff, maintenance staff and students have all extended to me the generous hand of friendship. I have been well fed and housed and invited to visit whatever classes I have asked to see.

As a teacher of Mathematics my interest has been particularly in the teaching and learning of that subject here; but not exclusively. An English class listened politely as I explained a poem about historical rural New Zealand, a French class refreshed my

memory of regular verb conjugations, an Economics class at Welham uses the same language of supply and demand that I taught when that was my main teaching subject, the laws of Physics seem to apply identically here despite the change in hemisphere and Social Science is taught with the same rigour and intellectual honesty as I would expect at home. In the Art department beauty is studied and created; I was able to recognise some influences that were familiar and was privileged to be introduced to some that are new to me.

Students here are as enthusiastic about their chosen sports as any in New Zealand. I enjoyed watching the basketball teams play in the competition and saw the difference that good support from the students in the audience made to the results. Hockey practices showed some inventiveness in developing plays from penalty corners that could outwit the opposition (no details shall be given in case there are visitors reading!). In their free time boys practised cricket and soccer rather than sheltering from the heat as I have felt compelled to do. I am pleased that the class eight students who beat me at chess are so far away from my team at Hutt International Boys' School and therefore will not be able to impede our progress in the regional competition next school term.

There are inevitably differences. In Mathematics, students here do not use calculators at all. That seems to me to not give them either a disadvantage or an advantage compared with my students at home. Here students do not play rugby. To someone from New Zealand where the sport is a part of the national psyche it seems strange to not hear even a passing reference to rugby in everyday conversations. Welham occupies a huge area and there are new wonders for me to observe around every corner: one student pointed out to me the fruit of a mulberry tree, there are birds I have never seen nor heard before, shy squirrels in the trees and even simian visitors.

I am grateful that you have a hospital on the school grounds because my stomach was not up to the changes in diet; and my medical student son assures me that the remedies prescribed by your doctor are just what he would have suggested.

I have enjoyed my stay and look forward to hearing from HIBS students of their adventures when they visit on exchange, and to seeing students from Welham discover what we have to offer in return.

**Mr. Richard**

Pettiness is not just a feeling of disappointment but it is the time of anxiety. Regret comes when we feel sad about something which is done by us in the past. We can say that regret is like crying over spilt milk as regret is a feeling which should be experienced by us so that we learn from our mistakes. But wasting our time because of regret is also something that should not be done. Regret for sometime is good but our morale is dipped because of it, we enter into stress or depression.

The only way by which we can stop the feeling of pettiness is by using our intelligence, by making decisions that are correct or else we would be left lamenting. If our mental ability is strong then we would be never left in a situation where we regret. If we regret then our whole life would start eating from inside and every moment of our life would slow down. There are different intensities of feeling petty. Some are for a short period of time and we get over its effect whereas some are for longer

period of time and effect and disturb us mentally. Pettiness affects us very directly therefore one must stay positive while forgetting about the past but this should be accompanied with our habit of learning from our mistakes. At the end, I would like to conclude by saying that "regret is good for the wise but bad for the foolish".

Yuvraj Pahuja,  
XI- Science

# REGRET



Reading is not just about improving your English or learning more, as if our monotonous education is not enough. There is a lot more to it than you can fathom. Remember the likes of Michael Faraday, who had a speech defect which led to the end of his formal education by the age of 13. Since his was a very poor family he became a bookbinder, binding hundreds of books by the day and reading through the night. Reading became an obsession. And then one day he encounters a book on electricity, with changed his life forever. Electricity became his lifelong fascination which led him to invent the induction motors which revolutionized the whole mechanical world. But this is a very huge change that is quite rare.

Reading, at a personal level, is almost divine for many. It is a sanctuary from the world, sitting quietly and reading. Oblivious to the worldly affairs, it takes them to a different world.

Reading provokes thoughts, ignites imagination, and makes us able to think the unthinkable. It can make us look at the world from another perspective. But there are those who 'think' (no matter how infrequent that is) that "why read,

when you can watch". You don't think when you watch a movie; you just take in the director's perspective of the story. Remember, you watch a movie with your eyes but you read with your mind's eye that is why it is said that no two people ever read the same book.

In introspect; reading takes me to another world, in the world of my imagination. I become the deaf and dumb soul observing everything but saying nothing. For me reading is an obsession without which I can't live. It makes me look at the world from another perspective. It makes me dynamic, receptive, it ignites the hunger for more in me and it changes the way I am for better. I feel a sense of accomplishment when I turn the last page. I feel I have grown from that book. I know when I read such a book 'cause in the end I feel I have lost a friend as said by Paul Sweeny.

At last, "Read a book that'll look good on you if you were to die in the middle of it".

Shresth Toshniwal  
IX-C

# THE JOY OF READING



## SEEKING THE MAGICAL IN THE ORDINARY

The ability to entertain is a boon that is possessed by children. As we grow older, this ability is lost. Thus, we have to resort to other sources to entertain ourselves. To a great extent this is true for seeing the magic in our everyday lives. Let us first just take an example of one of those many huge trees all over campus. How many of us have stopped and pondered over the fact that it has taken many years to grow and thus it must have seen Welham life for say, 20 years or so? That is, how many of us draw a parallel between trees and humans? How many of us, look at a star and ponder over the fact that the position of the star that we see today is not its current one, but its position hundreds of million years ago. The sheer weight of such a realization should dwarf the means of existence, as we know it. Given enough thought, these are the sources from where one can draw inspiration. The realization that, that star was here long before me and is going to stay long after me is extremely essential. Our lives are so turbulent and vulnerable that knowing something present will be there long after us makes for a soothing relief. Kids ask so wonderful and intriguing questions about the simplest things in life that sometimes, one just stops and wonders where the kid gets these questions from. This is their ability to see the magical in the ordinary. One is so overwhelmed by life as he grows up that he forgets the importance of simple things and surrounds oneself with complicate problems that he does not understand. Suddenly, he has lost one of the greatest virtues of human consciousness, to understand the building blocks of his existence. These multiple things appear dull and thus un-attractive but ask those who have understood these ordinary things, they will tell you that there is nothing more enchanting than going for a walk, simply to observe the nature After writing hit play like-'two men in a bar' and 'cat under the chair', when an interviewer asked Samuel Becket from where he draws his inspiration from, Samuel said that, 'Oh! I just go to a bar and chat with people.' One can easily see that he has

very clearly mastered the art of seeing the magical in the ordinary.

The truth is that all of us lead very monotonous lives. We can't do much about it except, we can change our perception. Perception is the only thing that stands between living and surviving. Perception is the key to unlocking magic. It is the controlling factor; two individuals can have numerous perceptions of a single situation. Thus, nothing stands in one's way if he is looking to seek out the magic in his life. And God is witness to the fact that there is no limit to what one can achieve if he sees the magic he needs.

Frederick Forsyth has written in his memoirs, "I am shut out of the garden, the dusty high road waits." He has represented the garden as a prison of wastefulness, while the dusty road is a sunny road that leads to a better and more fun loving place. He then adds that, to the reader it might seem otherwise but it's all about perception.

I think that if one can just sit down and block everything out, just observe the things all around him; he would see magic all around him. After all, did Newton not discover gravity by just laying on the ground, in a contemplative mood? Did not Sai Tzu write the greatest book on peace by observing an anthill? Did not Helen of Troy deceive the British by observing butcher at work? Such is the power of observation.

The power to dream and accomplish that goal is commanded by sheer observation. There are numerous people who tour the world aimlessly, just looking for something that would serve as their requiem for a dream. Of only one could learn how to preserve that spark of greatness that each one of has.

To the reader I say,

Your craziness and your magical world and your dreams! If you have not found it then it is only a great tragedy.

**Abdul Basit**  
XII- Hum"

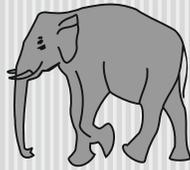
## SHOULD WE PLAY ALL SPORTS OR SPECIALIZE IN ONE?

Like every coin, both of these have their two sides- their pros and cons.

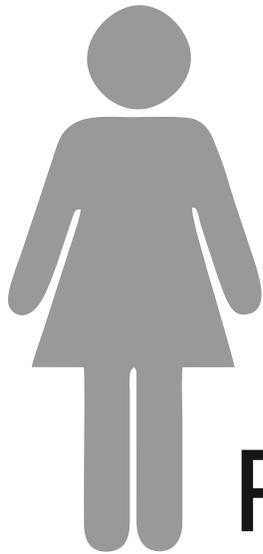
In this article I'll be talking about three intrinsic aspects of sports, namely- physique, time, experience and a minor one that is, the future.

Numero Uno, looking at physique, there are two possibilities, either the sports person has a good or a bad physique. If good, and the person chooses to try his hand at all sports, he would be able to cooperate with each one's needs. Given the latter choice, it's quite obvious that the person would be able to play that sport well. But if that person's physique is not up to the mark, he might lack if he chooses to play all sports though he might just manage choosing to specialize in one. Coming to time, again two possibilities arise, enough and less time. Given enough time, a person playing many sports will get better at them albeit gradually, but won't imbibe much more than the basics if given less time. Another person trying to specialize in a sport will get remarkably better at it given enough time and will also get better at it even if give less time though less substantially. Further in the list, experience too has two possibilities- one that is acquired in less time and another acquired in more time. In shortage of time, an all sports fan will get experience worth nonce while on the other hand, the person concentrating on one sport will get more experience comparatively. Even if a person has more time at his disposal and wants to play many sports, he won't gather as much experience in each so as to excel while the other trying to specialize would get enough experience so as to excel. Finally looking at the future, it provides more opportunities because of the number of sports that person plays but less chances to an 'all'- rounder and less opportunities but with greater probability to the other. But as always, there will be exceptions. Giving a suggestion, I would suggest a player to first specialize in one sport and then try his hand at others or try to specialize in others.

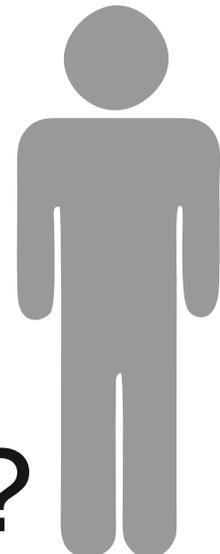
**-Akshat Dokania, X-C**



# THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA



**GENDER  
EQUALITY  
=  
REALLY  
PRACTICAL?**



In mathematics we say, let's assume that  $x$  is equal to  $y$ . the reason that we assume that they are equal is because we know that they are not. The irrefutable unity that we use phrases like; ladies first or give our seat to a lady rather a man is evidence to the fact that treating both men and women in the same manner is simply not practical.

Firstly, I want to explain to the reader that I do not by any mean support gender inequality or marital rape. What I warrant for is equitable treatment for both the genders. While equal treatment would mean that everybody is treated in exactly the same manner, equitable treatment on the other hand would mean that both the genders are treated in a proportional way. That is both are treated in a way that they become complimenting factors to each other rather than becoming substitute factors. This is the closest practical way of treating every human being with the same hand.

Homo sapiens or the human race has come a long way from living in caves. We have developed our cities and evolved our societies. Without peace no race can advance the way we have. So how did we establish law and order in our societies? We achieved this by assigning permanent roles to all members including women. Due to the physical weakness of the females of our race they were not allowed to go hunting for their tribe. Surely if they followed the modern

version of equality then the future generation of humans would be put in jeopardy. The very fact that both men and women adhered to their roles is what enables them to function properly and our society running smoothly.

Another dimension where women are not equal to men in modern times is sports and the defensive forces. This is simply because their mental and physical structure is not designed for such exertions. There is a reason behind a rule in sports that do not allow for mixed matches. For example in football or cricket or rugby even if the mental horizons of women expands they can do little about their physical difference. It is a proven biological fact that an hour of similar exercise done by men and women will have a more profound effect on men. When it comes to the female worker leaving her household for outside work it is hardly so. United states has both, the highest number of female workers as well as the highest number of diversified families. Dear readers, this is no coincidence. If a woman choses to go to

work instead of looking after her family it not only costs the children but also the husband who in most cases feels demeaned and undermined. This is where the arguments and family breakups usually follow. Thus what started out as a way of benefitting society resulted in the loss of the sanity of home. For all of this, the ultimate price is paid by the children who are both physically and mentally affected.

For several millennia gender roles have been fixed and are duly followed. The grim fixture today shows us that both the sides are crossing that fixed line. This has triggered a global social catastrophe by sparking chaos. There is more confusion in society than ever before. People do not know how to react as more and more women leave the safety of their home. The crimes against the women has also reached an all time high. It is very clear that women are not capable of protecting themselves from such crimes. Thus I would rest my case by saying that if god wanted men and women to be equal he would have made them equal.

The writer would like to revisit the point that I am by means discriminating women because discrimination can only be done if both the favored and not favored are equal. In this case they are not. I am a proud feminist and support things like women education and female empowerment. However the fact that both the genders should be treated equally is simply impractical for all the reasons stated above. Thus, Mary and Tom should both go to school, get the same food but they should not be treated in the same manner. Because a girl is a precious flower that should be protected as Eve was formed from one of Adams' ribs it was a because is to be protected, loved and cared for from the wholeness of one's heart.

The achievements of Indian women are a matter of great pride for all Indians as we should never forget what Winston Churchill once said. 'If you want to know the condition of a country, just look at the condition of women.'

**Abdul Basit**  
XII - Hum

# LEADING PATH OF INDIAN MINDSET

In a nation with a population of 1,15,53,47,668 people its difficult to find at least 1500 leaders.

This was the India I was born in. For thousands of years, whose wealth and honour was looted by foreigners. Currently, in its silence is being looted by its own people. Indeed, there is a large support for the corrupt.

Mahatma's non violence and his non cooperation were applauded all around the world. They were considered to be major achievements. Mahatma Gandhi's movements were successful because these were the exact fit for the Indian Mindset and the British mindset. This is the conclusion I came to after a deep thought.

I do not think such movements would have been successful against German or Spanish colonizers.

Now coming back to the Indian Mindset, Indians supported non violence because we tend to prefer inaction to action. Going through the history we see that we have lost numerous opportunities just because we weren't able to make our mind to act courageously. Only because the leaders fear a backlash, we are reluctant to work against the corrupt.

Our non violence and incapacity to take action works in favour of the treacherous. As we see in the case of Indians, in terms of black, money stashed away in Swiss Bank accounts which we are reluctant to pursue. The greedy are left undisturbed by us.

Our preference for inaction has led the country to run by Supreme Court, on the basis of activists who file PILs. If in a case, the Supreme Court passes a verdict, the government would be forced

to obey. The government would prefer not to take any action against the verdict or any issue. It is indeed very revealing mindset of ours.

One can point out to the violence prevailing in our society. Actually, we have too much of it- violence against women, violence against Dalits and so on and so forth. However, these are all examples of violence against the weak, where the threat of retaliation is minimum. I do not advocate violence. However, sometimes violence is justified. Violence against the corrupt, the venal, the treacherous, and the greedy is essential. A well directed legal violence is preferred over physical violence. I mean efficient action. Non Cooperation is a movement of the past. Non Cooperation by our union has tampered industrial development, reducing some states to pitiable conditions. This again is an example of victory of inaction over action

Our tolerance is an example of our love for inaction. "Let it happen, it happens all the time" is a downward slope for the path for action.

In the end, I would like to say that- either you use the bad Indian, my friend, or I too shall join in inaction and apathy.

**Soham Agarwal**

## THE LIGHT BENEATH THE BASKET

“You are the light of the world .A city set on a hill cannot be hidden from the rest of the world. People do not light a lamp to put it under a basket, rather they do so to put it on a stand and give light to all in the house. In the same world, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to our Father who art in heaven.”

The aforementioned is a parable in the Bible. A parable in light terms is comparable to an analogy. It is written in co-relation with the Sermon on the Mount. After much of contemplation on the topic, I decided to get to know about it and what was found was present in the Bible. I'll provide the interpretation in a way that might seem to be excessively relevant in our society and locale. Of course, there could be many possible explanations for Christians and non-believers but those might cease to be relevant, in our everyday goings.

Light here has multiple connotations that are seemingly synonymous. But from the term 'Positive' every possible one can be branched out. What it directly wishes to imply is that the proclivity to perpetually conceal what positives exist within you should be undoubtedly abandoned. These traits inherently exist within us, and it would be better the sooner we get rid of them.

Maintaining specificity and talking about our school for example, an assortment of people have a bounty of talents or skills or potential for that matter. But for reasons not so apparent they seem to wait and let them die down. Perhaps they are overwhelmed by the amount of investment in terms of works it was required to hone that skill that they choose to run away from the true light, go hide in a dark corner, with their inner selves sulking and dying to get out. But they hope to never be found and never be seen. And it is after the passage of time that realization dawns upon them and they look for the same passion and zeal within them and discover that their soul and light no longer shine as they used to. Perhaps they have somehow conceived this idea that is modesty to do so. If it is so, let me state that the most inhumane injustice one could do to oneself was the establishment of limitations.

Other than the above aspects one more idea rather abstract plays on my mind. The idea of spreading positiveness and goodness in its essence. When today's world is in dire need of some of it, it is not recommended that the proliferation of it be not halted. Feed it with as much exposure as possible.

“There were a billion lights out there, on the horizon and I knew all of them put together weren't enough to light the darkness that exists in the hearts of some of the men.”- *Michael Connelly*

-Vinayak Agarwal



## THE THEORY OF CONTINUITY

There are many theories that are considered essential for doing tasks successfully. Most of the theories focus on our state of mind while doing the particular task. I personally feel that the most important factor of success in a task is making sure that the right thing goes on through your mind before doing the work. These benefit in continuing the positivity towards the task.

Being positive before doing something is one thing and almost everyone does that but continuing the positivity is another and this can be done by doing something successfully beforehand. This is what distinguishes a consistent person with an inconsistent one. I believe that most of us are affected by the psychological circumstances around us that are either in the positive way or the negative way. They actually turn out to be like superstitions and one thing is sure that they do affect us whether we do or do not believe in superstitions. These circumstances are much more powerful than a simple superstitious belief simply because they have more of an impact in our state of mind and this state of mind is what affects everything eventually. I don't think that we can ever utilise our potential without psychological strength. I'm surely not taking the side of these psychological circumstances related to our task which are merely forms of superstitious beliefs over the potential we need for doing a task. It's just psychological circumstances that are much more effective in cases of weak mentalists like us.

The simplest example of this is that of a batsman and why different batsmen tend to have their own trademark styles while getting ready to bat? To make it simpler, why do they mostly roll or duck the bat? This just makes them feel more balanced. This is an important part of their process to get ready.

This shows how important the theory of continuity is. It forces us to do something without much reason and believe in it in order to have some positivity that can be continued to our task.

Sheikh Shayan Fayaz

IX-B

# Why Be Real, When You Can Go Virtual?

| There has always been talk of humans living a life that is not their own. We have read about it in books, seen it in movies, and now we are about to experience it first hand as the world makes the dramatic turn into what was 20 years ago called the 'future'. |

The future is for those who will take it. Everyone wants to be rich. Everyone wants to be the one who saved the world. Everyone wants glory! Sadly though, everyone does not get a chance, for we live in the real world. And sometimes, the real world tends to be crueler than Joffrey in The Game of Thrones.

So when mankind was not able to enjoy the glory associated with winning battles or finding treasure in real life, they invented stories, these stories became legends, legends inspired science and technology and now, one might find himself immersed in the world of Skyrim or The Witcher, looting treasure, slaying dragons. We play video games so that we may be able to experience lives that are better, more adventurous than our own. So that we may see how it is to actually go through all the stages of life with success at each level.

The human race has come a long way from writing fiction literature to now living science fiction. We have methods of transportation that could take us from one corner of the world to another in a matter of hours. We have the power to communicate a message to anyone,

anywhere in mere seconds. Soon, we will have a way to experience unreal lives with more depth.

As virtual reality becomes a reality and exposes more possibilities to explore. This opens new doors for education and entertainment. One can immerse himself in the world of medieval knights and learn about them in detail while playing a game. We will be able to experience worlds that will be ours to do as we please. Virtual worlds, but our worlds nonetheless.

This brings us to the ethicality of opening virtual worlds. While one may go about learning about the architectural design of the Parliament House for educational purposes, another may do the same with the motivation of implanting a bomb! But that is a concern for us after such technology has been developed.

Many argue that dependance on technology can become detrimental to the society's progress. So far, technology has only helped in furthering progress, and no matter how many movies portray rogue machines or Terminators, we will never stop dreaming of the day when we could call upon a robot friend to come over and

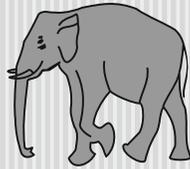
help us with work, or to teach us math, or drive us to school and trust it like we would trust a human.

To put it another way, progress demands betterment of technology as well as innovation. For this purpose, virtual reality has created a platform, in which we can have life-like simulations without actually affecting the real life.

This year will see the next step (or rather, leap) in technology - Virtual Reality. As other tech giants (Microsoft, Sony and Samsung) join the race, and the works turn and churn to make the unreal more real than ever, and humans, wanting more and more (for it is human nature to want more, even after getting everything), we must not forget that a real world exists. That world is plagued by poverty, hunger and destruction.

All things considered, as we will live in our own little social 'utopias', we will also have to prepare ourselves for the turn of the decade, for we never know what the future has in store for us... Unless science can, someday, prove otherwise!

-Armaan Suhail  
XII Commerce



# LASAGNE

## LAMPOON

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### (LRC: LAST RESORT CENTER)

The Learning Resources Center which is currently one of the most popular infrastructural pieces in our school has taken up the sole responsibility of sufficing the needs of Welhamites be it the sporty ones or the ever so tired ones. It has started to act as the last resort, the final solution to all our problems, and this is precisely why we are tempted to restructure the acronym from the Learning Resources Center to the Last Resort Center. Here's why!

#### **THE RESTING ZONE:**

Welhamites, very well known for their quality of making use of things have proven their mettle yet again by making use of the tables and chairs which are supposed to be used for reading magazines, as you would see the sleeping beauties of Welham living up to their titles quite professionally. This area is always filled with the living dead if not occupied officially. (Teachers please note) Whenever your student is missing from the class and has supposedly gone to the hospital, he is sure to be found in this zone. So, please don't be taken by surprise when you find that same student walking past you just after the period is over. This zone is most popular amongst the students who have morning practices, irrespective of the season or the sport. With some sports being all-season ones, this area just does not seem to lose its popularity.

#### **THE CYBER CAFÉ:**

With the installment of the research lab in the LRC and more importantly

working computers, the population of the LRC has been taken by storm. The research lab is the place where some students become the keenest researchers but ironically they are the same people whose general knowledge is crippled and is currently dormant. The extra-comfortable cushioned chairs of the research lab seem to have boosted the 'techno-savvy' hormones in the Welhamites, which then take self-appraisal to a whole new level. Thus, the person sitting on one of those hot seats unexpectedly acquires an uncanny knowledge of all the usable I.P. addresses and cyberoam passwords. The lab, which is home to numerous MacBook Pros, may be the sole reason as to why Ajay Bhaiya and Virendra Bhaiya are ranked among the more famous support staff members at Welham. The majority of the population in this area is of the people who are keen communicators across the LOC and commerce students, which is why Mr. Rajeev Bhatia is often seen here looking for his missing students. (Or maybe it's the other way round, sir.)

#### **THE COMMERCIAL AND SHREDDING AREA:**

Officially known as the LRC Well and the newspaper stand, this area has seen its share of the sly Welhamites. The Welhamites found in this area usually appear to be very knowledgeable but who could have guessed that it is the sports section that has lured them into this area. The torn magazines in this area are testimony to the magnitude of love possessed for them by their readers. The 42" LCD television that proudly hangs on the wall against the sunken well is the savior of all the energies of the sports enthusiasts, which would have been otherwise wasted in arranging for a visionary platform. These areas get their share of popularity from the everlasting support that they have provided to the 'sports enthusiasts', which basically is the entire school when it comes to sitting in front of it in order to serve their purpose of being called an enthusiast.

#### **THE MINI AUDITORIUM**

The Mini Auditorium commonly known

as the AV Room, is the place where Welhamites go when they want to chill out, both literally and metaphorically. One of the rare places where there is an air conditioner and an excellent projector with an even better music system, this is the place that comes across as 'paradise' to every living Welhamite present on the face of this Earth. The AV room is a luxury to Welhamites as it is only by a teachers' permission that we go there, however students at Welham have lived up to the tag and have entered the AV room in every little 'pocket of time' that they have sought to cease. Even after the unquestionable capability of Welhamites this is not a place that is usually populated due to the high security personnel present at all times (Ajay Bhaiya and Virendra Bhaiya lose out on some of their hard earned fan points).

### THE HIDEOUT

Unlike the chilly weather at almost all the other places, the Hideout, which is the LRC terrace shows a flipside with this attribute as it is one very hot place but with a beautiful scene. The terrace is a hangout spot that is (not any further though) safe and free from interference of teachers. The hot air, which is evidence of the rising global warming levels due to pollution, is of no importance to Welhamites as they are here due to their well-known 'carefree' attitude. It is a place that is popular among the lovebirds (I hope you get it) and the ecofriendly nature lovers of our school. The fact that it has not more than one entry point (i.e. the Theatron) has only gone to add another feather to its beautifully decorated hat. Although more populated in the winters, the Hideout never inclines towards defamation in the perception of those specific privacy aficionados, no matter what season.

**Aaditya Dokania,**  
XI Com

**Dev Goel,**  
XI Com

## WHAT'S IN WHAT'S OUT

### WHAT'S IN

### WHAT'S OUT

Paper Cutter (sui)

Razor Blade (cide)

Student Development In-charge

Senior Master

HRD Minister

Any other parent asking for admission

Mr. Prashant Chaturvedi

Mrs. Kiran Tripathi

Swimming

Sleeping

Mosquito Crisis in Cauvery

Water Crisis in Cauvery

Protocol with Grace

Mission Statement

Paperback Notebooks

Hardcover (classy) Notebooks

## Separated at Birth

Michelle Obama  
Manav Kumar (9A)

Sushen Maini (First lady)  
Mr. Prashant Arora

Dumb and Dumber

Aryan Prasad and Naman Kapoor

Angry Masterji and BB

Mr. Dayamay and Suyash Yadav

Phoebe Buffay

Samridh Singh Panwar

Romeo and Juliet

Suraj and Sanveg

Manmohan Singh

Hardic Gupta

Harshit Verma

Tanmay Bhatt

Ali Rana

Ketchup (Taco Bell)

Naman Jain

The Machinist

Santa-Banta

Prabhapaar-Punyagam

Anant Agarwal

Prabhapaar Batra (almost)

Vedant Sarogi

Oswald

Digit

Weenie (Oswald's pet dog)

# Through the keyhole

- Mohit Gupta- There were a lot of KASOLTies as a result of the Ecuador earthquake!! (That's the HIGH level of English expected from the School Captain).
- Sanaz Agarwal: Grade 8ths and 9ths to report outside.
- Sanaz Agarwal (before having Dinner): We thank you lord for all the blesses we have received. (We wish he received some blessings.)
- Rajeev Bhatia: Stand up at your place and keep (after a pause) stand! (No Comments.)
- New maths teacher to 9D – I will take you all to Mr. Dr. Bhandari (Ma'am Doctor is not his first name)
- Shantanu Bhargava – Listen, run and call Suyash from the top floor basement (or perhaps the roof under the ground floor)

## Ever Wonder why

- Devesh Tayal is seen near the badminton courts these days. (A lot of pressure huh!!!)
- Vithal Jalan and Yashovardhan went to witness the Welham Girls quiz. (Need some help with their GK.)
- Vayank Bhatia, Utkarsh Kumar and Yugdeep Shokeen are maintaining their distances from Vansh Ruhela. (Competition in the house.)
- Mr. Amit Singh and Mr. Jai Ranjan are never seen together. (Is another House Trophy a distant dream now?)
- Shashank Kumar Gupta is always seen doing all the work in the prefectorial body. (He definitely needs that attention)

## RUMOUR HAS IT

- A lot of the class 11 students are interested in becoming lawyers (the CLAT class seems like a good incentive.)
- Aseem Goel is the first Welhamite to invest in the International 'Stalk Market' (come on PP! you are lagging behind.)
- Arjun Randhawa has a different version of grace. (I thank myself, for all the blessings, I give them.)
- Mr. Amit Singh is a keen follower of 'Game of Thrones'. ( and now his 'Night's Watch' has begun.)
- Vithal Jalan thinks that New York Times headquarters is in Delhi.
- Aaditya Dokania is very excited about going for the Sanskriti MUN. (WELMUN really helped in the making of strong bonds of friendships.)
- The school installs an application in all the MacBook laptops because of which they crash when switched on.

# WELHAM Logic

- If a boy is seen talking to a girl, she is his girlfriend. Period!
- You don't mess with Randhawa, only he has the right to.
- No Welhamite is ever wrong.
- A new boy transforms into an old boy as soon as he attends the tuck shop.
- An occasion is celebrated in the truest sense only when the boys are given a treat.
- A new boy is very innocent unless from Lucknow.
- A black bag always contains a laptop in it, and a school bag means some mischief up your sleeve.
- Anything that is beyond a Welhamite's understanding is considered 'classy'.
- If you are seen talking to a teacher, off class hours, then you are supposedly 'buttering' him or her.



## Editorial Board

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