

Vol. XXXVII  
November 2015  
Issue 7

The

# Oliphant

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

## THINK ABOUT IT...

*Let your friends underestimate your potential and let your enemies overestimate your faults.*

– Mario Puzo

## EDITORIAL

The country has all sorts of activities going on. Hardik Patel making headlines every now and then and the Supreme Court trying to pass a law in which the judges of the Supreme Court will no longer be appointed by it are only a few 'serious' things. But my focus here is going to be a little different. Students, if you are reading this then please pay attention because it is now time that we overcome the convention of focusing on global issues and start stressing on the impediments being faced by the Welhamites.

First of all I would like to congratulate everyone who has won anything at any event this term. But we should realise that we could have certainly performed better at every event. I say this with full confidence in all the Welhamites because I know that everyone here has that capability. By virtue of being in this school we are all good at something and have the ability to become better or maybe the best.

But then let me come out of my whims and fancies. It has become perfunctory for every Welhamite to try and get his name printed in every list being formed (We will do it even without realizing that the list is of students one warning away from suspension). Coming to my point, we as students need to learn to 'prioritise'. Many would still say that we don't need to choose a particular activity as we can perform well in everything. But reiterating my point, I would like to tell everyone how this 'good performance' is only ephemeral.

If we don't learn to prioritise quickly then after sometime we will realise that our performance in every field is only stagnant if not deteriorating. This is because when we should have worked to perfect our skills in one field, we were instead trying our hand at something else. There would obviously be someone who may not be as talented as us but with his constant determination and perseverance he would certainly get ahead of others. People mark my words; it's only these people who are able to achieve something in life as they are focused and are constantly working towards a set goal. They may not be good at anything else but you know what? They don't even need to be because it will be 'the skill' which they have mastered that will cover up all their other flaws. This tricky world has got places only for the 'masters' not the 'Jacks' who are trying to do everything possible.

I don't intend to undermine anyone but what I pray for is that everyone realises their dream and works for it. Every Welhamite who passes out of this school should make his place in the world with the authority that commands respect. So Welhamites make that choice and make everyone proud. Otherwise winters is coming; grab a cup of coffee and watch one of your favourite TV shows and live life king size!

Prabhapaar Singh Batra  
XI- Sc

RINGSIDE  
VIEW

02

NATURE'S  
ECSTASY

08

WELHAM  
NOW

10

WORD WAR

12

LAMPOON

14

## RINGSIDE VIEW

The much awaited first quarter of the soccer season was a shock for most fans. It was an unusual sight with both defending champions Chelsea and Juventus struggling in the bottom half of their respective league table. The English teams have been disappointing in the Champions League whereas the Spanish have brought the heat. In the international scene, Wales have for the first time in their history, have qualified for the Euro Cup to be held in France next year. Gareth Bale has been their driving force with the team climbing from a ranking of 103 in 2011 to 9<sup>th</sup> in 2015! Thinking of a global scenario, the trials for the U 17 FIFA World Cup took place in the school. Aryamann Garg and Syed Hasan qualified for the next round. Oli wishes them luck.

Elsewhere, hosts England will have to wait for another 4 years to clinch World Cup glory owing to their shock exit at the 2015 Rugby World Cup. Lewis Hamilton is on a high in the F1 season this year with a comfortable lead over rivals Nico Rosberg and Sebastian Vettel. Mainstream sports aren't all that Welham is about. The skating team went to DAV Public School on 18th October for a tournament and secured 1st place in roller hockey and roll ball and also bagged 1 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medals. The next day the team took part in the Open Nationals held in Mussorie. The junior team secured 1st position, The sub- junior stood 2nd, and the senior team was 3rd in their respective categories. 5 Players Anmol Bansal, Yash Kirty, Shree Prasad, Vaibhav Goel and Sidhant Madaan were selected for RSFI Nationals.

After a humiliating 2-1 loss in the T20 series, hosts India have managed to claim some glory by leveling the ODI series against South Africa. The budding cricketers of the school have started going to the Abhimanyu Academy for their cricket coaching along with the 2 exchange students from Scotts College NZ. We hope that this coaching is the necessary step in the success of our school in this sport.

The Athletics season is round the corner. Marching and cross- country practices are on a roll. We patiently await the results of the competitions to come.

Signing off!

**Vikram Vardhan Singh**  
XI SC

## GAME REVIEW



**Developer:**  
*Microsoft Studios*

**Platform:**  
*XBOX One*

**Genre:**  
*Racing*

**Rating:**  
*9.5/10*

**Release:**  
*November 2013*

With the next installment of the franchise on the way, it is good to talk of the current leader in racing games. The first racing game that I played was tons of fun — beating the opponents with baseball bats and chains and kicking them out of the road. The world evolved and moved on from Road Rash to Gran Turismo and Need for Speed. Then came along Forza Motorsport and showed the world what racing games are supposed to be like. Unfortunately, this game has not received the attention it deserves in India because...well... "Play-Station loyalists" and also because Microsoft would not give this invaluable franchise away just like that.

Forza 5 is the combination of the pleasure of racing and the beauty of exotic cars. Whether it's cruising down the Maple Valley circuit in a Volkswagen Beetle or thundering down the Nissan Speedway in a modified McLaren, the 'ecstasy of swift motion' cannot be more defined. The graphics are probably what one notices first. The way in which graphics of the game enhance the beauty of the cars and the environment in which we race is just inexplicable. The amount of hard work and passion that the teams at Microsoft put in is clearly visible when the controller vibrates in one's hand as one turns that corner and

## BOOK REVIEW

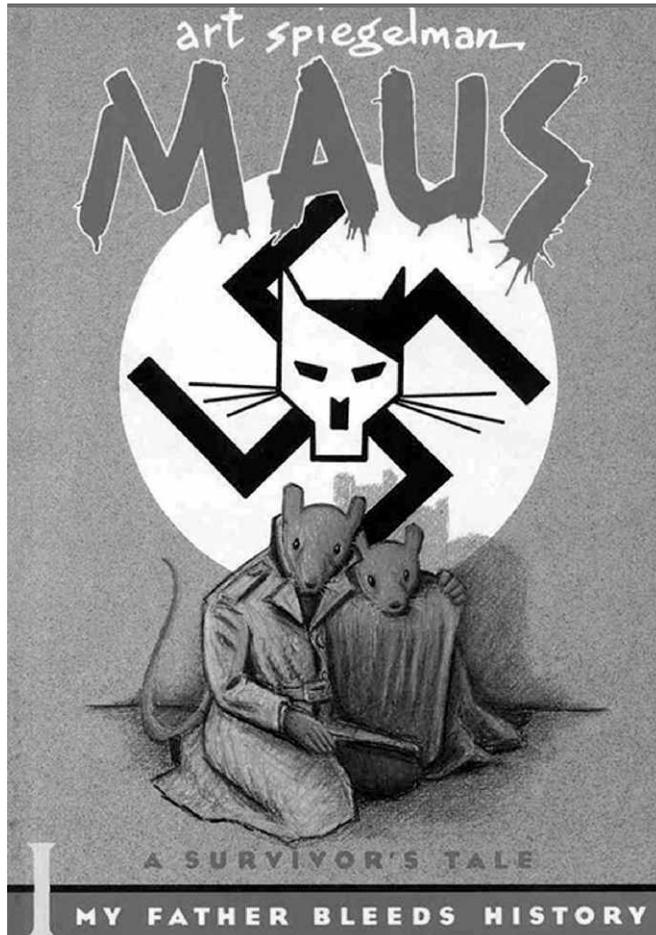


makes that hard right on the Nürburgring.

There are umpteen numbers of cars to collect from makers, including but not limited to, Lamborghini, Ferrari, Bentley, Maserati, and Audi. Then there are those that we don't expect or even know of — like Koenigsegg, Acura, Lotus, Abarth and many others. Forza's collaboration with Top Gear just makes it even better as one can have Jeremy Clarkson commenting about the various features of the car while you visit the showroom to buy one. The virtual and real world merge when one uses the 'Autovista' feature of the game in which we can get a virtual tour of the car and explore the interiors and all the specs, from the engine to the tires as if we were actually in the showroom!

The latest installment in the Forza series is Forza Motorsport 6, released this October, and I cannot wait to get my hands on it and get the racing fever all over again. All-in-all, Microsoft has really worked hard on this franchise and I would strongly urge everyone who has a passion for cars or racing games to try the game for you will, quite literally, fall in love at first sight!

**Armaan Suhail**  
*XI- Commerce*



Title:  
*MAUS*

Author:  
*Art Spiegelman*

Genre:  
*Graphic Novel,  
Non-Fiction*

“Runs like a black and white movie in comic form”

Take the most brutal mass murder in history and cross it with a graphic novel. The result - MAUS. MAUS is the Pulitzer prize winning graphic novel about the life of Vladek Spiegelman (Art's father) who was a survivor of the Holocaust.

MAUS talks of how it started with Jews being differentiated and all the favors that Vladek had to pull later on as things started to get iniquitous. It has the elements friendship, love, betrayal and lots of jaw-dropping moments that actually happened over 60 years ago. (It is still not a movie though)

I loved the way the author has drawn the panels as the story shifts gracefully between the author's turbulent personal life in the present, and his father's traumatic life during the Nazi rule. The concept of races is highlighted elegantly by showing different races as animals - Jews as mice, Germans as

cats, Polish as pigs and Americans as dogs.

The exceptional story-like way in which the Holocaust has been explained is truly remarkable. At some points the book reads like a normal book but the interruptions by the author's personal life (like the fame he received after writing the first of the two MAUS books) suck you back into reality and leave you pondering over a hailstorm of questions.

Art Spiegelman has made a masterpiece of a book. MAUS is enjoyable, surprising and intimidating, all at same time. Nevertheless, it is a page turner and a must read for everyone, especially you historians and conspiracy theorists out there.

**Armaan Suhail**  
*XI Commerce*

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**Director**  
*Ridley Scott*

**Genre**  
*Science Fiction*

**Rating**  
*8.1/10*

“When I was alone, I was petrified.” As the credits roll, Gloria Gaynor’s voice pierces through the air singing the 80s hit ‘I will survive’; its ironic to say at the very last, because much of the movie is based on similar theme and the first lines of the song manage to capture the emotions that astronaut Mark Watney feels knowing that he is trapped on Mars and that the source of help is just 140 million miles away.

“The Martian” directed by Ridley Scott starring Matt Damon is refreshing film that seeks to understand the endeavor of the human spirit to survive even in the hardest conditions. The movie opens with the crew of Ares 3 collecting mineral samples on Mars when a storm suddenly hits and one of its members, Dr. Mark Watney is separated from the crew. The crew decides to go back to

earth, thinking Mark is dead and our hero is stranded on the red planet with a piece of satellite sticking out of him and enough resources to survive for about a month.

Being another space movie directed by an acclaimed director with a star studded cast, one can’t help but try to compare ‘The Martian’ with space films such as ‘Interstellar’ and ‘Gravity’. However the comparison would be inappropriate because though the setting is similar, the concept and the major themes that surround the movie and the way it is portrayed are drastically different. While both ‘Gravity’ and ‘Interstellar’ are space drama movies of a serious kind, ‘The Martian’ is more comical. It seems to mine out the hinges from the cheeky bone one-liners the lead actor constantly delivers while trying to survive both physically and from boredom. Scenes in which Dr. Mark Watney delivers these witty one-liners, such as those with NASA and when he grows potatoes from his very own feces are some of the best in the movie.

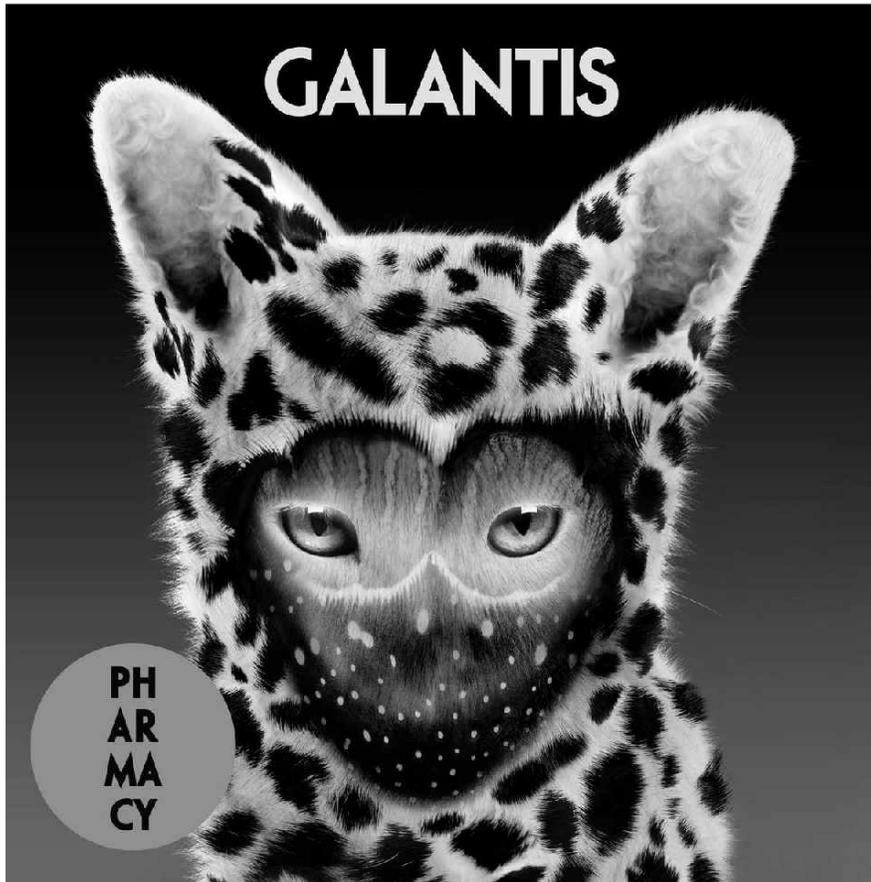
Though light-hearted, there are scenes which genuinely manage to well up

tears, especially those when the astronomers speak to their families or when Dr. Mark Watney lies alone gazing at the stars. Behind all the humor and the wit that is portrayed by the director, there is however felt a sense of loneliness knowing that he might as well never his family or friends again, and it from his loneliness that the humor appears as he tries to brush real feeling aside with a good laugh.

Filled with picture perfect moments and amazing visuals, ‘The Martian’ manages to entertain its audience for all the 2 hours and 10 minutes of its running time. Matt Damon is in top form and is well supported by all the other actors who are also a part of this film. Through its light-hearted feel and comic spirit ‘The Martian’ brings out a unique picture of a man trying to survive which will stay with you days after you leave the movie hall. It is befitting that this spectacle of human stirring and endeavor ends with Gloria Gaynor’s ‘I will survive’

**Tenzing Namgyal Bhutia**  
*12th Humanities*

MUSIC REVIEW



Artist  
*Galantis*

●

Rating  
*8.5/10*

●

Album  
*Pharmacy*

Pharmacy is the debut studio album by the Swedish electronic music duo Galantis, released on 8 June, 2015. Over the past couple of years this Swedish progressive house duo, Galantis has made a considerable mark in the EDM world. With Pharmacy they have fulfilled the high expectations that they had set after the 2014 release. This album is a wild and twisting ride through big room hallmarks, driving bass and soaring synth.

The album is finally out and is making EDM fans crazy with its amazing tracks. Filled with pop masterpieces, this album is very likely to be etched in the collective memory of anyone who listens to it. The first song, 'Forever Tonight' is a riskless upbeat, full of house leads that build up to trance synth stacks accompanied with euphoric female voices. 'Gold Dust sets the bar higher with powerful lyrics and a

moving melody. 'Runaway', 'You' and 'Smile' are also very memorable tracks. The rest of the tracks are also melodic and different from the usual EDM tracks that we are used to listening. This is the reason why it had been on top of The Billboard Electronic Album list.

Although this album is nothing like the usual EDM albums but somewhere, the tracks show a similarity. None of them are poorly done but some of their debut effort display sound similarity. Female vocal, four- four beat, big synth, repeat. This doesn't do justice to the duo's talent. However, this is the only fact that pulls down Pharmacy's awesomeness but the quality of music forces us to overlook these flaws.

I personally love 'Pharmacy' because it sticks out and manages to offer something that sounds fresh and different from the typical progressive house babble. The most appealing

factor to me is that it is full of pop-y, main stage anthems with uplifting keyboard synth and catchy- as- hell vocals. Even though 'Runaway' and 'Forever Tonight' are the most Shazm-ed tracks, 'Firebird' and 'Peanut Butter Jelly' are my personal favourites because each has a melody that makes the experience a fantasy.

'Pharmacy' offers tracks that will surely earn a permanent place in your list of favourites. When I say that this album is good, I mean it because trust me I have heard the best. After listening to this album you will ask yourself whether you still want listen to Avicii or Kaskade. The new kings of progressive house, Galantis are here and after all this I just want to say that this is what we call Music!

Abhiraj Ranjan  
IX- A

You must have seen lizards roaming about while you are trying to hit them. You are lucky that their big bad ancestors can't come to their rescue. Who are these? Yes, the now fossilized, previous dominators of the earth – Dinosaurs. Let's go back in the time and know more about them.



As the world plunged into the Triassic period (248-280 million years ago), the first Archosaurs started to appear. They were quite small in size. Entering the Mid-Triassic period, Archosaurs had bid farewell as the fresh dinosaurs started to appear, who mostly were predators. Herbivores made their entrance in the late Triassic periods. Then we entered the Jurassic period (200-135 million years ago). The smaller dinos had died out and larger herbivores had taken their place. We welcomed the large herbivores, but then it was time for the larger carnivores to make their appearance.

The late Jurassic Period welcomed even larger herbivorous dinosaurs. The 'Big Daddy' Sauropods ruled the lands with their 40 ton mega bodies with 2 story tall necks. The Cretaceous times saw the decline in the number of Sauropods as many bigger, stronger and better predators appeared. This included the

most famous – Tyrannosaurus Rex (The lizard king) and the swift and agile Velociraptor of the Carnosaur and Coelurosaur family. As they reached the end of this period; BOOM! All the species died as this race came to an end. Nobody knows what happened to them, the prime predictions at first were volcanic eruptions, extra-terrestrial objects visiting earth and UV rays. The answer that most of the planetologists (people who study the fossils of a dinosaur) agree with is the explanation about ET objects. Asteroids contain iridium (a rare metal found on earth). It was seen that the layer of clay in which the fossils were found, contained high amounts of this metal. Hence, making this also an explanation but the question that arose was about the location of the crater if there had been an asteroid. The discovery of a submerged crater, found 200m across Mexico might have been the answer. Also, there was another

explanation, that an asteroid this big could have caused a huge dust cloud to rise which would have covered up the earth blocking out the sun and making everything dark for a lot of months which would have killed the cold blooded animals. The number of herbivores would decrease, thus there was a dearth of the amount of food for the carnivores eventually making them die of hunger.

Though no one knows for sure what exactly made these mega beasts become extinct but what they know for sure is that something good happened out of all this and that was the evolution of small creatures that now rule the earth –Men.

**Akshat Dokania**  
IX- A

## FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

When the ship is going down, amongst the terrified submerged travellers in the ocean the desperate lowering and plunging of others to get to a lifeboat is, beyond good and evil, a release of strength. Good and evil are momentarily set aside until a place on the boat has been secured. On the boat, men allow morality to awaken again. They remind themselves and each other of the rules of collective survival. Yet now some are partially aware of the conditions and scope of their moral abandonment. In addition to something dangerous for the existence of others, each passenger that got on the lifeboat at the expense of others carried something vital on board for his own existence. Others are aware of it. From the beginning a boat is an extremely awkward place to be in for the survivors. Yet they must stay. In the wake of this newfound awkward revelation and the fear of turning into something primeval, they must attempt interaction. Soon they begin to resemble their ancestors. Each strand of facial hair

begins to look prominent. Men exhibit nostril hair growth; women have hair on their upper lips. Someone attempts to sing, revealing no mean incisors. Thus, the awkward clattering boat drifts gradually shoreward.

According to Nietzsche, a living being above all else wants to release its strength. This is an instinct. Collectively living beings strive for an optimum combination of favorable conditions that allow them to release their strength. Social coexistence is a complex interplay of strength. Its tools- love, kindness, humanity, values, religion, morality, laws, peace and harmony, Agents of the instinct to release strength - function to endure and propagate life. As long as there is life there is this release of strength. While it may vary in its manifestations and degree, this drive remains the same. But what of that where there is no life? What of the dark that precedes Being? What of it? The mind processes and facilitates non-existence, like it processes and facilitates what it

cannot experience, yet the flame burns with the release of strength, affirming life, for to live is to release strength fundamentally. All social interpretations of this show of strength are precisely that- interpretations, for Man would rather have a meaningful state over a state of no meaning. The great show of strength unfolds on this magnificent stage; the spectacle, to say the least, is eye catching. And once in while a great mind comes along that has the ability and will to walk away from the stage, stepping gradually backwards, to the point where the stage resembles a glint in space and all the sound and spectacle is lulled and dimmed before the joy of discovery. And if such a mind chooses to move forward again, towards the stage, it can do so with the added awareness of space and time and the freedom to move in any direction. And what, pray I ask, is this newfound freedom, if not the unhindered ability to release strength.

Parth Parasher

## WILLFUL IGNORANCE A HUMAN TENDENCY

Human idiosyncrasy of believing what they wish to is one of the biggest human tragedies and now a threat to humanity, as this has limited humans in believing that whatever is provided to them is the end of the world and thus denies further exploration. As Shakespeare puts it, "Men willingly believe what they wish to believe." Today problems are solved not by finding a solution but by choosing to believe that the problem cannot be solved. Humans have started behaving like ostriches and have started ignoring their problems rather than solving them. A serious problem today in space is that of space debris which has led to numerous satellites being destroyed which then become space debris but humans have not only not tried to solve it but have not even taken a step to prevent this growing phenomenon.

Humans have also lost their sense to prioritize as our scientists have started researching about Artificial Intelligence and ignoring the fact that there are bigger problems like global warming at hand. Also the very existence of Artificial Intelligence will pose a threat to the human race in the near future.

A wise man once said, "Knowledge does not bring chaos, ignorance does" but it is evident that ignorance now has crept into the very system that is imparting knowledge. Today if a child asks something that is not in his or her course, the very common reply that he gets is that he shall learn this later and his curiosity is suppressed, and with time he loses interest in the topic and never gets his answer. This very ignorance is something that has suppressed the curiosity of many children who could have done

something greater if they had got that answer. They could have gone to someone else and found out but this ignorance has got into their system so strongly that they decide not to walk that extra mile.

Today, human life is a typical example of how one's advantages turn into his disadvantages. We are the only ones who communicate but there still exist misconceptions because we chose to ignore anything that the other person has to say. Today we are ignoring our own needs, our own existence and our own problems. And we conclude this article choosing to believe that we could not have done anything better than writing this as we are very much humans and willful ignorance is nothing but a human tendency.

Mehul Rungta and Dev Goel, X- B

## MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES

The only reason why people are not able to recognize opportunities is that they usually come wearing overalls called hardwork.

- T.A. Edison

Opportunities in our life make their appearances for a while and vanish before long. They are rare and one must utilize them before it is too late. Those who are alert, agile, and smart and remain on a lookout for opportunities are the ones who benefit from them, while the lazy, lethargic, inactive and weak merely share a bed with them.

The secret of all the successful people in the world is that they do not lazily

wait and watch but grab the opportunities given to them all the time. Hard work pays, but till the time you don't take a step ahead and express your talents, you won't benefit. What if Sachin Tendulkar or Usain Bolt wouldn't have gone for frequent trials, would they have ever reached to this level?

Our life is full of ups and downs but one mustn't cry over spilt milk rather he should try to amend his mistakes and leave no stones unturned while the time

is favoring him. The world in which we live is a tricky one and we must be cautious and should know how to play our cards carefully else we may have to repent and suffer irreparable losses. So people try and make the most of all the opportunities you 'manage' to get.

**Punyagam Singh Batra**  
IX- B

## Nature's Ecstasy

Water there is just dripping by,  
from the silvery leaves.  
As I heard two people talking by,  
I sit there and just breathe.

The flag of time just flutters by,  
Amongst the wooden seats.  
When I see the droplets falling down,  
It's like a marvel of ecstasy.

The air just blows them in the way,  
To make them seem like they love to sway.  
The ends of drop diverge into many;  
The similarity to life just seems too uncanny.

They sparkle down as they flee,  
The silvery hose that I can see.  
Yet so simple and marvelous,  
Is the very sight of these very beads of sparkle.

I see the sparkle talk to me one by one,  
As I hear two people speak.  
A word so unnoticed,  
No one really cares to take a peek.

Maybe just once sit and try,  
This way of profound thinking.  
Notice the tiniest of things,  
And sense the joy that it brings.

The droplet vanishes down the house,  
But I can see another one taking its place from  
the bend.

I can see it falling again,  
To meet its splashy end.

**Vedant Dewan**  
IX- A

I begin with a message for my students.

“Use your imagination :

It is the only thing ...

That will never run out. “

I have spent nearly two decades at this fantabulous institution. Each moment is vividly etched in my memory. It has been my home and I am sure it will always be. Little angels have touched my life and made me a better human being.

I joined during the tenure of Mr. Kandhari. I run short of words to express my gratitude towards him. Working under him, I realized that a good teacher needs to cater to each child differently. There is no tailor made

programme which fits all at one go. I am indebted to him.

Gradually, my bond with the children grew stronger. This not only helped to build their self-esteem, but mine too. I became a patient and a caring teacher. For all my dear children, I need to thank you for all the love and affection that you have showered on me. It is strange you feel that I taught you all, because in the process I learnt from all of you. It takes two for a tango. I will treasure each moment spent with all of you.

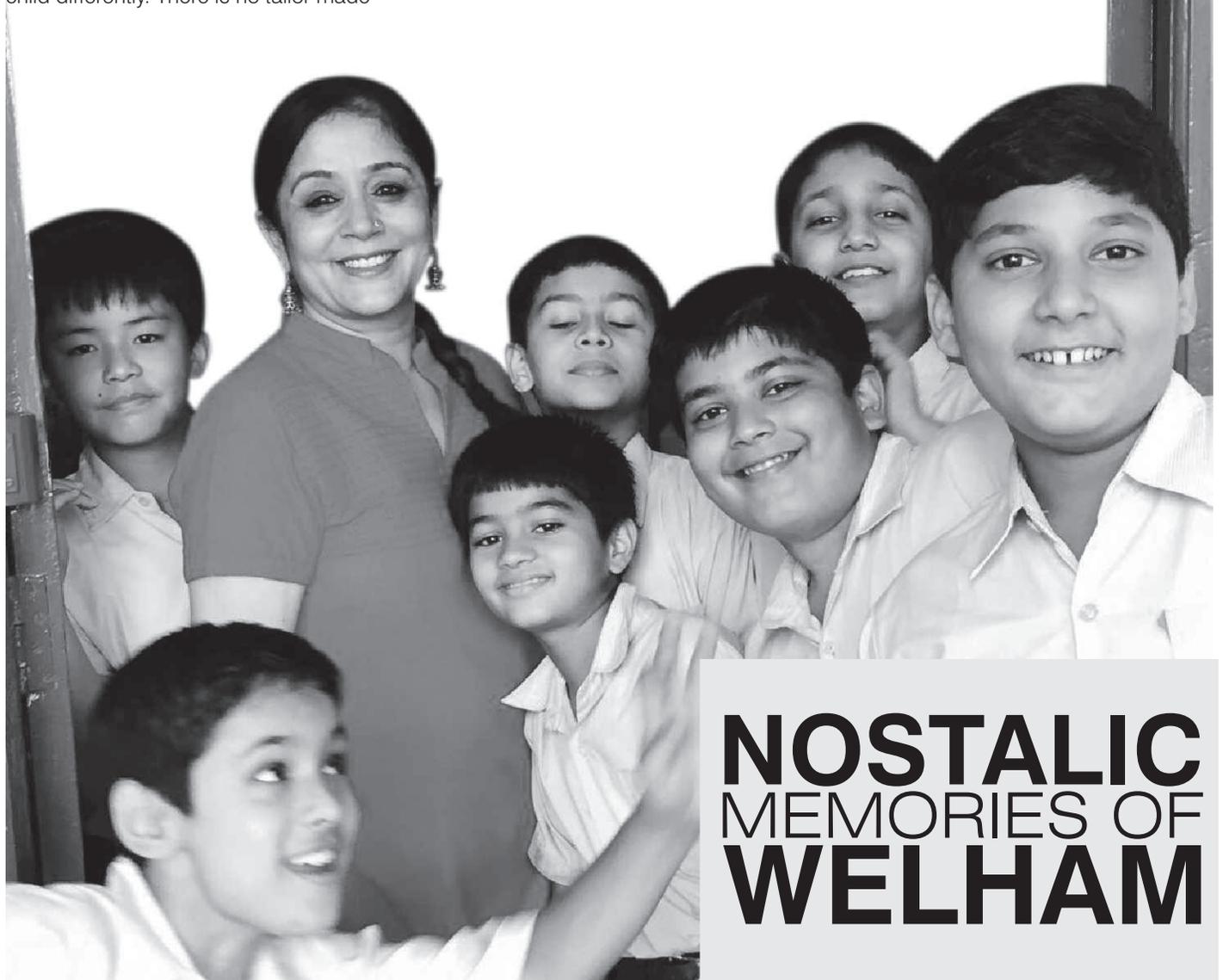
I thank Ma'am Bindra for giving me the freedom and the liberty to run the 'Learning Differently Center.' It has been a pleasure to work under her guidance.

At Welham, I have made some very good friends. They are my lifelines. I would have been incomplete without their support. It's difficult to name all of them.

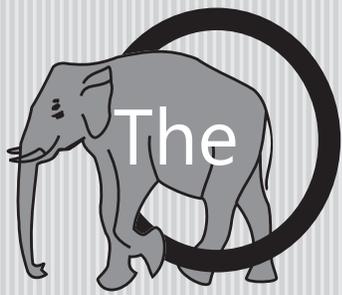
In the end, I salute this institution that is so great only because of its wonderful children.

“Take risks  
If you win,  
You will be happy.  
If you lose,  
You'll be wise.  
Never ever give up.”

- Nonie Bagga



# NOSTALIC MEMORIES OF WELHAM



# Oli 24 X 7

## WELHAM NOW

---

- A delegation of 14 boys participated in the MGD MUN 2015 from 5 to 7 October. **Mohit Gupta** and **Viraj Merohatra** were awarded the best delegation award. **Dev Goel** won a High Commendation and **Dhruv Swarup** won the Outstanding delegate award.
- On the 7<sup>th</sup> of October there was a joint Vox-Populi session between Welham Boys' School and Hopetown Girls School at the Theatron.
- On the 9<sup>th</sup> of October there was a crisis committee held by Peter sir discussing the South China Sea Conflict.
- There was an I-Can conference held at Welham Boys' School on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. Ecole Globale, Mussoorie International School and Wynberg Allen also took part.
- The yoga interhouse took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October and Ganga House stood first.
- The school participated in the Yoga IPSC held at Mayo College on the 17<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup> of October.
- A debating society has been set up in school under the guidance of Mr. Parth Parasher. The presidents of the debating society are **Mohit Gupta** and **Prabhapaar Singh Batra** and the secretaries are **Vikram Vardhan Singh** and **Aditya Raj Pahwa**.

## MGD MUN REPORT

---

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October a group of 13 boys along with Mrs. Tara Sharma went for the MGD MUN 2014-2015 to the city of Jaipur. The opening ceremony of the MUN set the mood for the rest of the conference. The first day of the MUN was full of fiery debates and endless discussions. While the mornings were full of hard work, diplomacy and deliberations the evenings were full of enjoyment. On the first evening all the delegates changed into their traditional Indian attire and went to 'Chauki Daani'. Chauki Daani is the abode of Rajasthani culture and tradition. The visit to the Chauki Daani was truly an amazing one. The dinner was most certainly a filling one. Even though as Welhamites we were expected to eat everything that was present on the plate none of us could achieve this feat.

The second day was again full of heated arguments but yet again the evening had a lot to offer. The delegate dance was an amusing affair. Delegates who had not even opened their mouth in the entire conference had suddenly

found their feet within the game. Welhamites were able to attract a lot of attention because of their dancing style and their astonishing moves.

Finally, all the hard work was done and now all of us waited for the award ceremony to get underway. **Mohit Gupta** and **Viraj Mehrotra** received the best delegation award in the United Nations Security Council(UNSC), **Dev Goel** was adjudged the outstanding delegate in the Futuristic Security Council(FSC), **Dhruv Swarup** was awarded with an honorable mention and **Devansh Raheja** received a verbal mention in their respective committees.

Overall, this MUN proved to be a great experience for the budding MUNners of the school and also helped the experienced ones to improve upon their skills of diplomacy and debating.

**Devansh Raheja**  
*XI-Com*

---

## MID TERMS TREK TO HEMKUND AND VALLEY OF FLOWERS

---

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September early in the morning, a group of 43 students from class 10 along with Mr. Amit Singh, Mr. Jai Ranjan, Mr. Joginder Ghusai, Mr. Laxman Bhandari, and Maam Bindra left for the mid-term trek to Hemkund Sahib and The Valley of Flowers. This was going to be our first trek and we were told that The Valley of Flowers was a really beautiful place. It indeed turned out to be a once in a lifetime opportunity.

After a journey of 8 hours we reached Joshimath where we stayed the night. Though it was a long journey hours flew like minutes because all of us were having so much fun chatting and singing songs. We were staying at a camp in Joshimath and were asked to have dinner which was super delicious. When all of us heard that we were going

on a trek we had already decided that the good food was going to be a luxury. We were asked to rest in our tents soon after dinner because tomorrow was going to be a long and hectic for a 14km uphill trek to Ghangaria was in store.

We started early next morning and soon after breakfast began our trek to Ghangaria. Many boys in the group gave up just looking at the blazing sun but it was really nice to see how all the batch mates motivated each other. The trek was really steep and tiring but everyone had a lot of fun trekking together. Looking at the beautiful landscape and listening to the beautiful sounds of nature was truly a delight. When we reached, that feeling of making it to the top was enough to forget all the lethargy and tiredness. Just in front of our hotel there was a huge Gurudwara where most of us enjoyed the tea and langar. There was great feeling of accomplishment in everyone but we went to bed early because we knew that tomorrow is going to be even more hectic.

Next morning immediately after our breakfast and collecting our refreshments, we started for Hemkund

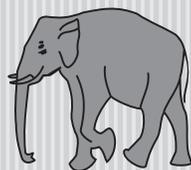
Sahib. The trek to Hemkund Sahib was 7kms but it twice as steep as the trek to Ghangaria. Many people found it really difficult to walk because even the oxygen level was low. But towards the end every one was able to make it to the top. The view up there was worth it. The Sar Sarovar provided for a mesmerizing view. The best part of the mid-term was taking the dip in the lake, when the blood froze and the limbs didn't move. It was one of best experiences of my life.

Next day we went to the Valley Of Flowers which is a UNESCO World Heritage site and is a tourist spot that attracts thousands of tourists from around the world. It was a 6km long trek but the beauty was unparalleled. We came across many plants and flowers which we didn't even know existed. Though it was not the flowering season the place looked stunning and I wonder how mesmerizing it would look in the flowering season.

We trekked back 14kms to Joshimath the next day and this marked the end of our trek. We then rode to school. This mid-term was my favourite at Welham and I got to learn a lot. My first impression from my first trek was really nice and I hope to go for more.

Yugdeep Shokeen  
X-A





# THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

## WORD WAR

### Students studying sciences should be given extra privilege

For ▼

Being a humanities student, it makes me shiver to even think about an idea as uncanny as giving special privileges to a certain section of students with a subject based on voluntary selection. This overwhelming emotion is further aggravated by the fact that the section which could be the recipient of these privileges is not the one I belong to (pun intended). This also adds as an advantage as my judgment hence is not clouded by self interest. Therefore the question arises that why do I defend something that I have no personal gain from? Perhaps the answer is as baffling as the question and I haven't discovered it myself yet; perhaps I don't need to know at all. Then what exactly do I depend on to make my judgement? I depend on sentience, on this gut feeling that time and again oozes out of my veil of self consciousness to tell me that something is just not right. So when I argue today, I urge all the readers to (along with logic of course) depend on this conscience of righteousness and then come to a concrete conclusion. If by chance the reader hasn't managed to notice what perhaps has earned the largest font size on this page, till now, allow me to repeat it. Sciencees should be given special privileges.

To make my arguments more feasible, it is imperative that we understand the context of this argument. We speak of the situation in our own school, that is

Welham Boys' in our present day scenario, when around us globally there is prolonged attention given to the development of science and technology. The fact that our Prime Minister makes it a point to meet Mr. Zuckerberg even before President Obama when he visits the States, only elaborates this hallowed status. Then, why should India, famous (or rather notorious) for the number of students who choose/are forced to study Science at an advanced level, stay backward when it comes to the standard?

Thanks to our 1.2 billion population, we have hit the nail on its head when it comes to the quantity portion but what about the reliability? Before I start deviating (not talking about Physics) allow me to quote Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory (heads up Ms. Ahuja). This theory basically states that a child's development is affected by his or her (all ye feminists) direct and indirect environment. Hence simply put, if a supportive environment is provided, it is but natural that performance shall be enhanced. It is also quite necessary that instead of arguing on vague lines, we make it clear that all of us are on the same page when we talk of these 'special privileges'.

Since we talk of formally making them a part of our existing system, they would need to go through rounds of brainstorming before the concerned

authorities formalize them. The fact that this process would be undertaken by people whose judgment and experience is infallible, we can undeniably put irrational privileges out of the frame. These privileges, hence in my mind take form as special classes, different assigned areas for self study, educational lectures from eminent figures and extended study time amongst many others and not the ones such as extra food (ATTENTION WELHAMITES). Providing such specialized advantages to the students cannot be harmful to anyone. As for equality, we need to draw clear lines between 'same treatment' and 'equal treatment'. Giving a lion and a goat, both a piece of meat cannot be justified as equal treatment. This brings me to my last argument of utilitarianism. As has been stated before, the end outcome of these privileges would be the development of the students. Therefore the actions taken by our school would directly result in the improvement of results which proves the utility of the aforementioned actions. With this, I rest my case and just in case, if Sciencees do get an extra sandwich, please don't forget to send me one!

**Akshat Singh**  
*11-Humanities*



## YOU EITHER DIE A HERO OR LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE YOURSELF BECOME THE VILLAIN

### Against ▼

I see no reason as to why a student who has opted for Sciences should be treated differently. In our scheme of studies, it is strange to take an extreme combination of subjects like Physics and History so that the opted subjects fall into so called 'Science', 'Commerce' and 'Humanities' streams. A student chooses a set of subjects on the basis of his or her interest and aptitude. Sometimes students are not able to make up their minds and, as a result, end up doing subjects in which they are not interested. Also, aspirations to achieve the objectives in life are misguided by the element of money and fame. It creates confusion in the minds of students and they fail to choose the right combination of subjects after class X.

The differential treatment meted out to Science stream students leads to disparity and disappointment among the other batch mates of the same class, but in different streams. There is no second opinion that Science subjects are demanding but in the end, the total marks scored have the same value as they do in other subjects.

Are you able to balance and manage your time in order to give you space to think and reflect? Do you just want to acquire knowledge but be far from application? Creativity emerges from a mature thought process. In fact, thinking on purely singular subject basis limits

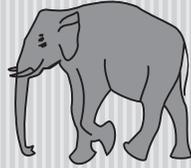
cross fertilization of ideas. Thinking beyond singular subject boundaries develops insight about a multidisciplinary approach to life. Hoping that one would become special if they have taken 'Sciences' is meaningless. It has been seen that Science students are victims of false hope given by different people and with a result that they undergo a process of self torture at the cost of their happiness. Cracking entrance examinations is a skill and often students fall prey to vicious learning habits which limit originality. Students who finally make it into these prestigious institutes are not able to cope with the demands of the subjects.

These days, there are no permanent careers and it does not really matter what subjects you have studied, so long as you are able to create a place for yourself in this world. Nobody is immortal and life is a journey. To start and finish this journey, you need life skills more than domain specific knowledge. How you want to be successful and happy depends upon you. All this will happen if one has faith in himself and is not misguided by false enthusiasm.

R.M. Bhandari

One might comprehend this very famous saying related to wars of old and acts of bravery. But taking and relating it to more common circumstances today we see that it still relates to us perfectly. It says, you either fulfill yourself in a given time or unleash the wrath of one's close to you. Some perfect examples are Delhi chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and our very own Modi Ji. Firstly, with Mr. Kejriwal, that man was brought to power not once but twice with landslide victories. Promises were made to make NCR a free wifi state, electricity to be free and many more. But look at the state of the person who was once the idol of the common man. Most of the initial party entrepreneurs and ministers have either resigned, arrested or have been suspended. Again, a once very powerful party, AAP, with a brilliant future has been turned into nothing with the initial her, Kejriwal becoming the only villain here. And as said by many that at this rate, Kejriwal will only be left with his broom as a support. Same might be said about NaMo in the not so distant future. People are slowly becoming frustrated of his excursions, hollow promises enhanced by large rallies. Down the road even he might resort to the same standard of the best villains we have seen. In the end I would like every reader to think about the topic stated: You either die a hero or live long enough to see yourself become a villain.

Abhay Singh Dhillon  
IX



# LASAGNE

## LAMPOON

**All characters in the text below are non- fictitious.  
Please try and relate to one of them.**

So I had been assigned the task of writing a lampoon. I sat on my bed with a pen in my hand but sadly without any ideas at all. With time I had got completely distracted from the fact that I had been given a deadline (an Oli one) and I started looking around my hostel for an idea and tried asking a topic from someone. But then I got the standard reply which one would expect from a Welhamite. Ignorance. We just don't have the time. Do we?

I was sitting there on my bed, baffled, when suddenly I noticed the diversity in my hostel, not literally diversity on the basis of caste or colour, but how each and every member of my house had a way of their own. That went on to be the topic for my first ever lampoon:

My eyes went on to the first set of people. While everyone in the hostel was busy discussing the dates of the next common outing, these friends of mine were solely interested in reading what happened at the Gaza strip or learning the factors that led to China's economic downfall. The class toppers or the geeks as we call them like to live a life of complete solitude and do not even dare to look at the opposite sex.

Stated above was the condition at one end of the hostel. But at the other end I could witness a total contrast. This section (the majority) visits the washroom every other minute to check whether their hair is in the same funky manner as they had set it during their last visit.

Then there are some who have lost total connection with the world. They can be seen lying down on their bed reading the love letters they were going to send and maybe possibly waiting for the school to host another conference.

But people you can never miss the 'sly ones'. Hiding behind a locker, possibly doing Facebook or waiting for the games time to come so that everyone moves out

of the hostel and they can have the imported chocolates brought by their favourite uncle or aunt.(sharing is just not their thing). You have no idea what these people are up to. All you'll ever get from them is a nod and a HmMMM for every question that we ask.

But then there are some who are good at everything. They are the minority in the batch. They can be seen roaming around in the hostel, either bragging about their marks or flaunting about the new friends they made during their recent interschool tournaments or conferences.

Anant Agarwal,  
X-A



Murry( Exchange Student)

Angry Bird

Kartikeya and Bhavesh

Timon and Pumba

Abhijeet Ghildiyal/ Shree Prasad

Shishimanu (Ninja Hattori)

Naman Agarwal

Suryansh Dalmiya

Mr. Brahma Raina

Anupam Kher

Mr. Joy Arora

Heiachi (Tekken)

## Separated At Birth

## Ever Wonder Why?

- Vithal Jalan washes his face at least four times a day. ( Bro I hope you do realise that advertisements are not always true)
- Vikram Vardhan is hanging a lot with Harshun Mehta these days. (Is this within the "scope" of this section?)
- Aditya Dokania has been roaming around the north block these days. (Did someone say 'Welham Girls'?).
- Nikhil and Uttkarsh are not seen together these days.(DJ Clashes)
- Nikhil Gupta has reduced the number of logins to Facebook. (Looks like Oli's lampoon have a great impact on 'vellas'.)

## Through the *keyhole*

- Aryan Arora (being questioned on his nationality)- I'm from British.
- Ali Khan- Where is Carlo Ancelotti these days?  
Tanmay Negi - Sabbatical.  
Ali- Oh! By the way where is it?
- Ms. Rashmi Rawat- The IPSC boys are leaving at 7: 30 in the afternoon.
- Nikhil Chandra Jaiswal- I just bought a new sleeveless Nike shorts!! ( No comments)
- Mr. Amit Singh- I heard it from my own eyes. ( And we saw you saying that from our own ears)
- Anmol Saini- I'm suffering from fever. Please declare one day holiday.

## RUMOUR HAS IT

- Class XI is planning to organize another trip to Barakdsar Lake with KP sir in charge. (Seems like that they had a lot of fun which they certainly fail to remember).
- Mrs. Monica Chandel is really fond of Vikram. (Whispered conversations and conspiracies to make him quit the Oli board?)
- Mr. Saurav Sinha is planning to run every evening now. (Maybe the Oliphant did inspire him)
- Yashovardhan sees everything in two dimensions. (It's all a matter of how you see it)
- Sean certainly has had an instant impact on the Ganga House boys. (#maggimasala)
- Mohit Gupta certainly felt at home in the MGD MUN.
- Mr. Srikanth was actually spotted smiling twice on the same day! (has to be seen to be believed)

## WHAT'S IN WHAT'S OUT

What's in	What's out
Extra Classes	Free School
Flash	Arrow
Ms. Asha Sanghal	Ms. Joyeeta Mukherjee
Card System	Point System
Pradyumn Dhobal	Akshat Singh
Crème dela crème	Swag
Debating society	Quizzing club

## Editorial Board

**Editor-in-chief** – Sheikh Safwan Fayaz

**Editors** – Pranjal Agrawal, Prabhapaar Singh Batra

**Co-Editors** – Tenzing Namgayal Bhutia, Devansh Raheja, Vikram Vardhan Singh

**Cartoonist** – Abhinav Negi

**Correspondents** – Yugdeep Shokeen, Aaditya Dokania, Anant Agarwal

**Teacher in Charge** – Mr. Saurav Sinha

**Published by** – Ms. G. Bindra, Principal