

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

The Cold War spills into Asia, beginning of the polarisation.
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THE VELVET GARDEN

A little trimming here and there could never do any harm, could it?
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THE WEEK GONE BY

Post-Founder's clarity and the final stretch. How will we fare?
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Editorial

Unwritten

Vivaan Sood

.....
Writing has always been a private matter for me. I have hated showing my pieces to friends and peers before they are complete, not for fear of judgement, but because of the vulnerability shown in the piece. I try to impart to the reader a sense of who I am in every article, creative, or poem I write, and doing so first involves revealing myself to them, much as the whole crew behind a play enters the stage to take a bow at the end of the production. Putting this sense of self into each piece is an admittedly difficult task; I think that everyone is far better at describing what they see over what they feel. Perhaps that is why we in School are far quicker to critique the decisions made by School Management than to introspect and critique ourselves. We can perceive, but are not perceptive.

Writing has also sometimes been a pain, but a necessary pain. To first contend with an idea for an article, then to develop, and finally to articulate it is often a drawn-out process. Many of us can — to varying degrees of success — achieve the first two goals, but the third is the tricky bit. I know many writers, myself included, who have produced pieces that are all context and groundwork but fail to get to the point. We love to

show the reader that we know our stuff, but we fail to *tell* them what we mean. Telling, not showing, I suppose.

Getting to the point is the part that matters, and if we could, the *Weekly* would only publish three-line summaries of every idea we had and call it a day.

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All of this is to say (here is me getting to the point) that writing never comes easily, but that is precisely why the *Weekly* exists. A platform for those who don't know where to begin. I don't mean to assume what your idea of the *Weekly* is and what it stands for; that is another private matter. But I do wish to show you my understanding of it after four years on the Editorial Board.

The reason a D Former can so boldly mail in a poem that they wrote in thirty minutes in the Library and expect it to be on Page 1 of the *Weekly* is because they feel that is undoubtedly the greatest piece of writing ever contrived by the human mind, and the *Weekly* would be foolish to not fulfil this demand. I certainly felt this way five years ago. For that same reason, I am sure that you will be seeing my name on these pages far more often now on than during my tenure because I feel strongly about what I write. I am not sure why that drive is lost between these polar years, but I am sure that everyone wants to articulate a message they believe in.

We are ultimately a student-run publication for the viewing of Students and Masters in a School. We are not a newspaper that looks to break a story, or to call out some perceived injustice; we may at times want to, but our primary purpose is to serve the needs of this community first, and if that need manifests as an article submission, then it is our duty to accede to that first.

If writing is truly so difficult a process, then it is the *Weekly's* responsibility to give people a place to begin, to give a platform to those who have something to

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This Week in History

1936 CE: Germany and Italy establish the Rome-Berlin Axis.

1950 CE: China enters the Korean War on the side of North Korea against South Korea and the United Nations (UN), with the United States being the UN's principal participant.

1983 CE: The U.S. military, under President Ronald Reagan, invades the island country of Grenada.

1984 CE: The action thriller film *The Terminator* is released in the United States.

READER'S CHECKLIST

Surya Verma: *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover

Trish Badhwar: *1984* by George Orwell

Daibik Bharadwaj: *The Shoe Dog* by Phil Knight

Anay Gupta: *Looking For Alaska* by John Green

AD INFINITUM

Samarveer Bisen, Vivaan Sood, Avi Bansode, Krtin Goel, Zubin Dhar and Aryavardhan Agarwal have been awarded the **Scholars' Blazer**.

Congratulations!

AUDACES FORTUNA JUVAT

Jai Rana, Udathveer Pasricha, Karma Kheni, Veer Babaycon and Umaid Dhillon have been awarded the **Games Blazer**.

Kudos!

“

I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure, which is:
Try to please everybody.

—
Herbert Swope

THE WHO?

Who is Andre Romell Young?

Namish Agarwal: A Footballer

Abir Garg: A Professional Scuba Diver

Andre Romell Young, professionally known as Dr. Dre is an American **rapper, music producer** and **entrepreneur**. He is the founder and CEO of Aftermath Entertainment and Beats Electronics, and co-founder of Death Row Records. He has received **multiple Grammys**, both as a producer and artist.

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

I am in Sc Form but the 's' is silent.

Abhir Kohli, rising up the ranks.

Can you quiet please?

DKM, silence of the lambs.

Don't double-mind yourself.

Ruhaan Lakhina, applying himself too much.

Stop insulting and mocking me.

MMR, caffeine withdrawal symptoms.

Avoid the unavoidable.

RLR, starring in a *Mission Impossible* sequel.

Is Bromine a gas at liquid temperature?

Aakash Mishra, AKM's teacher assistant.

Around the World in 80 Words

PM Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping held first bilateral talks in five years. Prabowo Subianto took office as the eighth President of Indonesia. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer denied allegations about Labour Party interference in the US Presidential Election. Upwards of two hundred trains have been cancelled due to Cyclone Dana, predicted to hit Odisha on Friday. Real Madrid beat Borussia Dortmund 5-2 in the UEFA Champions League. New Zealand beat South Africa to win the T20 Women's World Cup.

Dosco Doodle

Fight Club

Reyansh Agarwal



(Continued from page 1)

say whether or not they know how to say it. The reviewing and editing process is the Editorial Board's burden to shoulder; all we have ever expected of the members of this community is a willingness to say something.

It is not unfair to assume that members of a democratic society are willing to engage with the world around them in a meaningful way. We are all going to participate in democratic processes now or in the future, in School and outside, one way of which is through print media. The *Weekly* will, I hope, be the first foray into this process for many. And just as a democracy attempts to recognise

the views of all involved, so too does this publication strive to provide a platform that ensures free debate over any subject that the community finds pertinent.

I imagine the *Weekly* to be a 'Marketplace of Ideas' but not exactly in the way Mill envisaged it. Rather than a competition of ideas, the *Weekly* should serve to bring different perspectives together to determine the kind of community that we want to live in. There is no authority that should be allowed to disfavour one kind of speech, placing it at a disadvantage; free expression allows an individual to shape their community in a desired way and allows them to understand their

place within it.

All of this is to say that writing and the *Weekly* are many things, and it is for the individual to determine what they make of both. My proposition is that both are crucial elements to the delicate ecosystem of School. Writing never comes easy, but nothing that is worth doing does. The *Weekly* and its place in our community today is a matter that remains to be seen. I am just a contributor on my way out and I've presented my two-cents. What you make of it is the bit that matters.

Now, if only there was a place to answer this question...

The Velvet Garden

Hrishikesh Aiyer

The atmosphere here is immaculate — sheen
and shimmer.

A few stray thoughts may flit about,
but don't fret, they'll be politely escorted out.

Anything too pungent for the palate
gets filtered away before it bubbles up.

Sharp opinions? A menace, truly.
They've been grounded to a fine powder,
just in case someone trips on a rogue truth —
those can leave bruises on the soul,
and nobody wants a reminder of yesterday's
skirmishes.

It's not censorship — think of it as landscaping.
A little pruning here, a gentle raking there,
until the garden looks perfectly safe for picnics.

Nothing's lost, merely arranged with flair,
like troublesome toys stashed neatly in the
attic.

And behold, no one's fidgeting anymore.
Everyone's relaxed,
in this velvety atmosphere,
where every grin is a subtle nod
to the glorious illusion of agreement.



The Week Gone By

Zubin Dhar

The Gentry look upon their Kingdom with weary minds but full hearts, pleased with how they have tended to it. They see their children, no longer children but fully fledged leaders of their counties and shires. As the sun sets upon this glorious land, the torches shine bright as they are taken from their sconces into the falling night, soon to be passed to those with the strength to carry them. Perhaps as the torches sputter, and the land bears witness to the dying of their light, the sun will rise once more to give new dawn...

and another day to make torches perhaps. As it happens, a torch might be needed to shine light on just how many students were present at a certain party over the Founder's outing, but perhaps

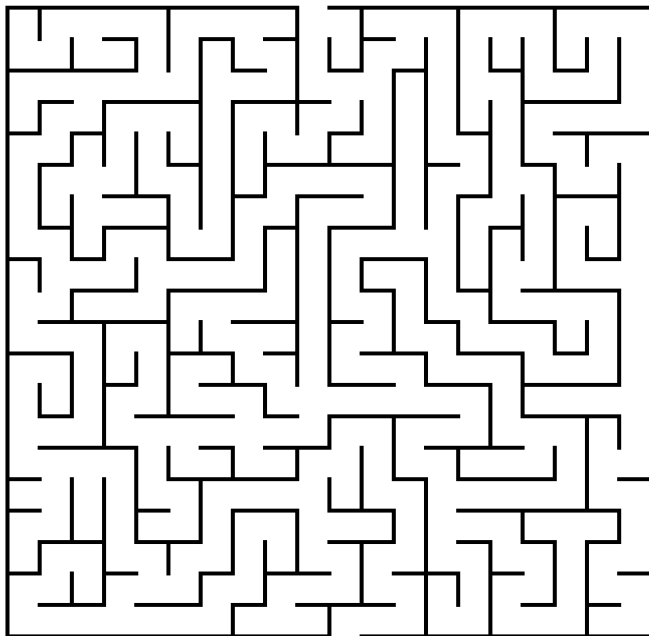
that's an issue for another time, and another page. Needless to say, many DoscOs returned from their Founder's a little bit plumper, and a lot more anxious to get back home to creature comforts. As the Founder's Frenzy lifts from the campus as a fog does off a moor, suddenly the end of term seems so much closer, and for some, November seems to be light at the end of a tunnel, others might call it the barrel of a gun.

As my dear batchmates now fight their final battle, against syllabi or sleepiness, I understand what Owen was talking about in all of those depressing war poems. Truly the educational war is most dehumanising, and the casualties to anxiety, stress, and apathy grow in number. To those still fighting, I say not all hope is lost, and to those who have lost or given up, I hope they go peacefully, for the only hope now is enlightenment (from sitting

under the ~~Bodhi~~ ~~Gaya~~ tree).

As Diwali approaches, and a different kind of light flickers within the campus, we have to look forward to two festivals of light, so to say. I can only proffer the same advice that was given to me when I joined this place, which is this: go for everything, do what makes you happy, and understand you who are, and what make you *you*, because if you let society assign you a value, that value is contrived and can be lost at any time. They can never take away from you the value you understand yourself to have, they can never knock the assurance and stability you build your life with, if only you do this much. Farewell dear readers, and keep your resolve fiery as opposed to torches during this imminent chilly winter.

Maze



The *Weekly* wishes everyone
a very Happy Diwali!

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

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