



# The Oliphant

WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

**THINK ABOUT IT**

**“Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else’s opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation.”**

**-Oscar Wilde**

## Editorial- Masked Realities

You are reading this piece during an occasion of unbounded joy, Welhamites on their way home, parents meeting their children after a long span of time. As much as I would love to partake in this celebration, from the back of my mind, from the depths of my heart, I get a feeling, one about the vulnerabilities of human life. A life that over the course of the last year I realised is fueled by ambition but driven by greed. In this never-ending hunt for more, people end up creating facades of their own selves, unknowingly disguising themselves as someone they truly aren't.

The first few sentences might make a select few think that I am talking about two-faced people whose sole reason for having friends is to further their own personal agendas. Unfortunately, I am still too unaware of the functioning of the human psyche as well as too inexperienced within the game of life to talk about such a broad topic that holds several implications. Rather, what I want to lay emphasis on is how, in the pursuit of more laurels and materialistic achievements, we end up forgetting who we are. Humans are afraid of the unknown, we all know that, hence our hesitance to take risks, but what happens when you, yourself, are the unknown? That is the question that I have been pondering over for the past few days, and the reason why the emotions of this article might feel as the polar opposite of the occasion you read it on.

Your hunt for more, or to be something, whether caused due to your ambition or from the inherent trait of avarice that every

human possesses doesn't change the fact that it is like chasing a carrot on a stick, the reward is right in front of you, yet you are unable to ever reach it. Throughout this never-ending chase, we are willing to go to any extent to get a bite of the carrot but for each step we take forward, the carrot takes two. Therein lies a point of argument, at least we on a personal level have development, despite us never reaching the end goal (because our idea of what we want keeps on getting grander), at least we are improving. But I want to pose a simple question in front of you— dear reader, is the person improving really you? The entire point of this article is for me to make you think— is the way you lead your life really you, or a doppelganger under your skin and bones? A doppelganger who wants to be glorified through materialistic awards and merits.

So as you sit down to eat a fancy meal and gulp down your favourite black-coloured carbonated drink, delve into the hidden corners of your mind and heart and think whether you are pursuing what you want or are your actions oriented towards you adding more items to your list of never-ending worldly possessions. If you believe you aren't wearing a cloak to veil your true self in your ambitious and, quite frankly, greedy pursuit, then more power to you. However, if you find your true self hidden, unable to develop, like I did a few months back, perhaps it is time to discover yourself. Perhaps it is time to get rid of the facade that fooled you for so long, and finally embrace your true self.

**Ashaaz Ansari**  
Editor-in-Chief

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# Actor Review: Ryan Gosling

Ryan Gosling has been described as one of the most versatile actors in the 21st century. Many say that an actor like Gosling coming into the industry could be considered a sporadic event. He could even be considered a Robert De Niro (without the gangster traits obviously). But how did the child star turn his whole career around?

As a child, he worked in Disney shows and as he grew up he experimented with more roles such as playing a teacher with drug addiction in *Half Nelson* or a Jewish boy with racist beliefs in *The Believer*. His big break, however, was *The Notebook* in which he played Noah, a country boy who falls in love with a city girl. They are forced to keep their passion for each other aside due to societal pressure and a difference in the social stature of their families. This wasn't like any of his darker characters; he extended his range to pure romance without sacrificing any of his naturally subversive qualities.

After playing Noah in 'The Notebook' he didn't want to be typecast as the charming boyfriend and did numerous experimental roles. In his films before and after *The Notebook* we can see he repeatedly pushes himself to convey dark emotions with as few words as possible, relying on his face to do the heavy lifting. In *Half Nelson* he switches between an enthusiastic and encouraging teacher and a man crippled by drug addiction, which is an example which shows us the diverse sides of Ryan Gosling. In 2011, we got to



see *Driver*, one of the most unapologetic, edgy, lonely and depressed characters he has played which made it one of his most definitive roles. In the film, his lack of dialogue draws us closer to the character and forces us to study his face, looking

for every small twitch or glimpse to understand what the character is feeling, making the film much more intimate as a result. It's what we see in most of his films; the use of facial expressions is incomparable to how Gosling does it, he uses his facial expressions and his body language as if they were adjectives in an essay.

Coming to his best movie yet and the greatest (horror) movie of all time, *La La Land*. The chemistry between Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone is something we have seen in the past in *Crazy Stupid Love* but here, it just clicks! Their bond on screen is shown so perfectly that the connection between the two doesn't seem like a movie duo, rather a living and breathing relationship. The movie is a perfect example of the trope "What could have been...". The role of Sebastian in the movie *La La Land* is something which we can only imagine as a joyful character with bright poppy colours, quite contrary to what the movie actually portrays (sadness amplified).

Just a year later, however, his performance in *Blade Runner 2049* is the exact parallel. It's hard to imagine a movie like *Blade Runner* without colour. Of course it had colour, but Gosling's character's dark presence overshadowed the entire presence of every bright thing. To everyone who has watched *Blade Runner 2049*, yes, he's definitely us.

The post Covid period has been great for Gosling. The role of Ken in the *Barbie* movie gave him an opportunity to explore a character with no character restraints. His characters have definitely Kenned a lot over each other, given their unique and diverse personalities, testament to Gosling's versatility. His upcoming project as Colt Seavers in "The Fall Guy" with Emily Blunt is a mix of his characters such as Jacob Palmer, a charismatic guy in *Crazy Stupid Love* and *Driver*, an edgy unapologetic man from *Driver*.

Gosling has set out on a wonderful journey, from performing his song "I'm just Ken" from the movie *Barbie* in the 96th Oscars to being nominated as the Best Supporting Actor in the Oscar's and the BAFTAS. Ryan Gosling is an actor the industry rarely gets to see, maybe once in decades, who leaves a remarkable and indelible mark. Or maybe he's just Ken.

# Movie Review: Dunkirk

**Rating: 8/10**

**Genre: Historical Drama**

**Director- Christopher Nolan**

**Cast - Harry Styles, Fionn Whitehead, Cillian Murphy**

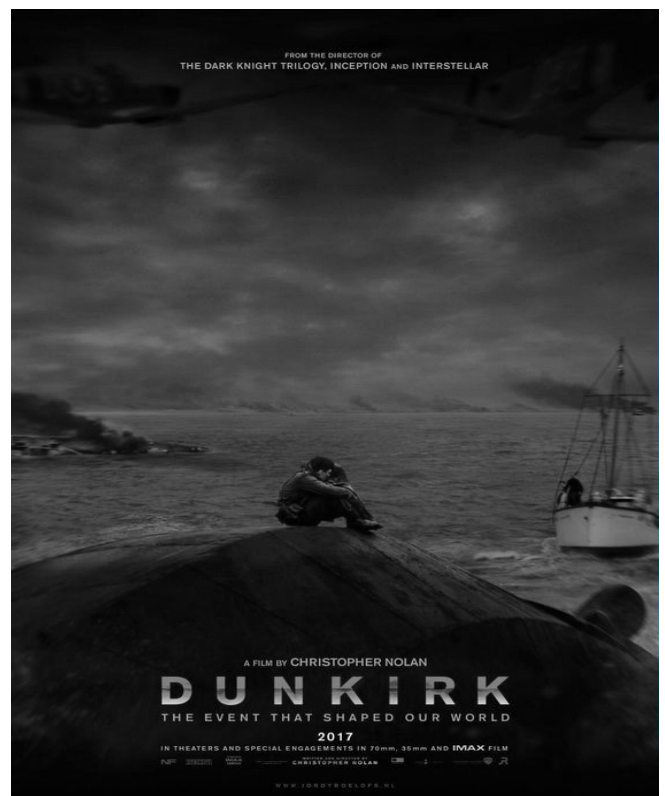
'Dunkirk' is a cinematic marvel that delves into the depths of the Second World War and showcases to the audience the most harrowing events of the war. The movie is a depiction of the evacuation of the Allied soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk in 1940. The masterpiece, directed by the renowned director, Christopher Nolan, has won numerous awards and accolades in the film industry.

In July 2017, the film industry came across a wonder that had surpassed the expectations of the people. 'Dunkirk' was a movie that left an everlasting impression on the audience. From the very first second of the film, the unmatched storytelling of Nolan acts as a magnet to the audience and does not let them lose their attention till the credits roll. Contradicting other war films, Dunkirk's plot moves in a linear trajectory. It delves into a total of three time-lines that are air, water, and land. This extraordinary approach creates tension and a sense of emergency in the hearts of the audience.

A way of visual storytelling adopted by the director, another outstanding quality of the film that makes it stand out is its minimum use of lengthy dialogues. The brilliant cinematography handled by the famous Hoyte van Hoytema, seems to put the viewers into a trance and takes them to the beaches of Dunkirk. Actors and actresses like Tom Hardy, Mark Rylance, and Kenneth Branagh along with others showcased a true powerhouse performance. They inherited the souls of the soldiers they acted out and portrayed their courage and resilience on the camera. Though each of them got limited screen time, they left their mark by making an impression that will last forever. In my opinion, the most remarkable set of frames that left a permanent splash of beautiful paint on the canvas of my memory were the movie's portrayal of heroism amongst adversity. As the soldiers waited on the beaches with piles of dead bodies around them and fire dancing in the air, the most ordinary men rose up to become the most courageous heroes. The way the plot races, leaves a long-lasting thought about the true brutalities of World War II that lingers long after the credits have rolled.

'Dunkirk' is a historical tour that forces the audience to watch it again and again on the biggest screen possible. Its breath-taking visuals, immersive sound design, and gripping storytelling, help it stand out in a plethora of mundane war films.

**-Eshaan Tiwari  
VIII**



# How Greed Stems in Every Being

Greed is a human emotion which is not innate, i.e a human isn't born with this emotion incorporated within them but instead they develop this feeling by learning from their surroundings. Then why is it that greed in people is of different levels and different things?

Greed as an emotion is learnt by humans but the different layers which determine its extremeness and motive depends on the person. We humans have categorised greed as a negative remark to someone's personality only because of its literal meaning which is to have more or to have a separate desire to obtain something. This greed can be anything, it can be of something as low as money, a skill, an object. Just like our other emotions, there is no limit to greed in a person.

People often get confused between greed and ambition. There is a really thin line to distinguish them. Ambition is the zest of the person to achieve or obtain something in a civil way but when this ambition reaches an extreme point, it turns into greed. There are different types of greed based on personality. Fear contributes to lack of generosity, a competitive nature forces a person to have the urge to outdo others. Envy, a feeling of resentment forces a person to strive for what they believe are lacking. Now, one might say that greed is not inherently a positive personality trait to have, but in the past, greed used to be a survival instinct. Early humans living in harsh environments needed to be greedy in order to obtain resources, hence spawning forth the phrase 'survival of the fittest'.

Just like the environment, culture also affects a person's greed. For example, individualistic cultures promote hard work and striving to improve oneself. Then there is collectivistic culture which promotes the well being of the group over the individual. Greed, a complex force that can motivate us to achieve great things or lead us on a destructive path. We can harness its positive potential while guarding against its dangers by understanding its routes and that greed doesn't define us. It is a good way to reflect on our own relationships with people and with possessions as well.

- Yash Singh  
X



# All That Glitters is Not Gold

The common homo-sapien is a rather mystical creature. A creature that is easily swayed by life's little distractions. In the process of one's endeavours, the common man generally loses sight of what is in front of him and deviates off of the path he is supposed to walk on. Here, he succumbs to sins that completely devour him and change not only his personality but his body language and social skills which cause him to do anything to achieve his goal while being oblivious to others' feelings. It is then that one must realise that extreme passion and determination leads to these instances where one succumbs to greed.

A proverb very commonly heard but never paid attention to is " All that glitters is not gold ". The philosophy of this proverb surpasses the importance that is given to it. This proverb implies that things which may look attractive and appealing to someone's eyes at first glance may not be as expected. This proverb tells us not to judge things by how they appear to be but rather by their intricate details, through which we can understand the true picture.

The common reader might be perplexed by the particular notion I have presented and might ask themselves how this proverb is related to greed but dear reader, I assure you, try to explore the ambit of the situation and look at it with an open mind.

In the process of pursuing one's endeavours, one may be determined and focused to the point that they will do anything to achieve their goal. This is exactly the problem. While showing grit and determination is very commendable in situations like these but when the pursuit of one's endeavour blends with extreme passion and determination, we are presented with a rather tricky situation. It is highly possible that the person, drunk on passion and determination may lose sight of what's in front of him and he is blinded by the intricacies of the road in front of him. Now, even if not disturbed, he will deviate from the

path he is supposed to take. Away from this path, he starts to succumb to sins, the most common being greed.

When someone is in such situations, their grit overtakes them and they do anything to achieve their goal, employing the dirtiest of tricks. When someone does something that pushes them towards the goal (or so he thinks), he will want to do it again. This is where he succumbs to greed. Greed robs the person of their senses and they are not fully aware of the options in front of them and may end up making a choice with dire consequences.

As the proverb implies, it may seem to be glittering gold but after thorough understanding, it may not be what it appears to be. Here, the person is blinded by greed and ends up making a choice purely on appearance, being oblivious to all consequences. Here, it is due to greed and the extreme passion of the person that leads him to stumble upon this paradox.

After reading, you must understand that what is portrayed here might happen to you as well. It is very possible that you may fall prey to greed so it is important to remember "All that glitters is not gold . "

-Tanveer Madan  
X

## The Ambition Conundrum: A Delicate Balance between Aspiration and Avarice

“As Caesar loved me, I wept for him; as he was fortunate, I rejoiced at it; as he was valiant, I honoured him: but, as he was ambitious, I slew him”. -Brutus, Julius Caesar.

Aren't ambition and greed two sides of the same coin? Upon thorough examination of this philosophical conundrum, I have come to realise that it is a great and yet a common folly, to envision them on the same side of a division. Let us take ambition to be a piece of paper. When we divide the paper in half, a division is created. It is this division in which greed and ambition cease to exist on the same side. To compare them is to ask oneself a fundamental question, one directly questioning the moral compass of the subconscious. A moral compass is a subjective sense of justice which is built upon one's environment, experiences and the information he consumes. In the case of greed and ambition, a moral compass is what decides at what point the ambition turns to greed.

Ambition can be pictured as a river that stretches on for many kilometers. It flows on, nourishing its bank and helping the future prospects around it grow. It is the purest form of a want, one without any negative repercussions, only propelling you towards success. Greed, on the other hand, can be compared to trash which pollutes this river. It poisons it, kills all the possibilities it contains and rots it from the inside out. It makes the river stray from its original path, tapering its flow until the culmination of trash finally stops the river in its tracks.

The line between ambition and greed is a thin and blurred one, even more so for someone right in the midst of being corrupted by the temptations of gluttony. However, by carefully examining our thought processes without lying to ourselves, we can identify on which side of the line we are. Truth be told, we have all fallen victim to this delicate relationship between ambition and greed and may or may not have learnt our lesson. Ambition will help us in becoming more active, yet greed will only make us enter a state of indolence and lethargy, destroying the bonds we form through hardship and leaving us in a pitiful, alone state.

Cursing the world for all it's done, yet it really hadn't done anything, all that occurred was the product of the choice we made between greed and ambition.

**-Rudra Rastogi**  
X  
(First Time Contributor)



# Greed: A Cause of Downfall or Salvation?

“Greed is a bottomless pit which exhausts the person in an endless effort to satisfy the need without ever reaching satisfaction.” - Erich Fromm

Greed is a timeless aspect of human nature and has been a subject of contemplation and debate throughout human history. It is often portrayed as a villain in human narrative. The role of greed in human society has been really complex, leading to both, downfall and salvation.

In its darker manifestation, greed has acted as the catalyst for the downfall of many. History is vital to help us understand the human greed for wealth and power which ultimately led to wars and invention of weaponry. From the time of ancient monarchy to one of modern democratic governments, greed has fueled our society with corruption, exploitation and ethical decay. It makes individuals blind to the consequences of their actions. This leads to self-destructive behaviour that develops gradually, harming others in the long run.

The global financial crisis of 2008 is a testament to how greed leads to downfall. This was due to the rush for wealth and power which, according to human ideology, are the two main components for a good life on earth. The consequences were felt worldwide, with millions losing their homes, jobs, and savings. The historical incident highlighted the dangers of a greedy society and inhumane actions for wealth and power, leading to social decline.

However, it may be wrong to dismiss greed only as a destructive force, as it has also led to societal salvation and progress in some instances. The pursuit of personal gain has driven innovation, entrepreneurship and overall economic growth in many circumstances. Greed when harnessed properly can motivate individuals to push boundaries, take risks and contribute towards the betterment of the society. The problem lies in finding the delicate balance between ambition and what lies beyond it.

Greed in modern society can be a driving force for individual success and societal advancement. It is

the engine behind competition, pushing individuals to run for excellence and achieve feats that benefit the collective. Success and a selfish desire to leave a lasting legacy has driven visionaries like Steve Jobs and Elon Musk to excel and leave an everlasting impact on society. The drive for wealth and recognition has fueled their relentless pursuit of excellence. This has resulted in the creation of products and technologies that have transformed the way we live, work, and communicate.

While the tales of downfall and salvation associated with greed are compelling, the reality is often accompanied by a thin line between them. Striking a balance between ambition and ethical considerations is necessary to fulfil your desire, while avoiding the pitfalls of greed. The pursuit of wealth and success should not come at the expense of societal well-being with essential components including regulations, transparency, and a strong moral compass.

It is important to recognize the fine line between healthy ambition and excessive greed, as we navigate the world full of ambition and desire. We should always aspire to harness the positive aspects of greed while preventing its destructive consequences and paving the way for a more balanced and prosperous future.

- Harshit Agarwal  
X

# FAREWELL Kandpal Sir

In a heartfelt farewell, the school community bids adieu to our beloved Vice Principal, Mr. Mahesh Shanker Kandpal, who has been a cornerstone of support, guidance, and inspiration throughout his time with us. As he moves on to new horizons, it is important to recognize the significant impact he has had both behind the scenes and at the forefront of our institution.

As I sit to write this, I realise how much weight he has held in my life, despite the minimum interactions and I don't think I'd be wrong in saying that everyone also feels the same towards his presence. A humble spirit, who spoke less and did more, Sir will be missed by not just us but many generations of Welhamites that have gone before us.

During his tenure, he seamlessly balanced his roles as an administrator and a teacher for some years, using his expertise to help countless students grow and succeed. His dedication to their well-being and academic progress has been unwavering, leaving an everlasting impression on our school community. Behind his unassuming exterior lies a skilled organiser. His meticulous planning and mindfulness have been crucial in making our school events and activities run smoothly.

From minute details to big productions, his behind-the-scenes work has enriched the experiences of everyone involved. What is more, he has always been there to lend a hand. His willingness to help anyone in need, without hesitation, reflects the compassionate spirit of our community. Beyond his administrative duties, he has been instrumental in our co-curricular activities, nurturing student talents and providing opportunities for growth outside the classroom.

Seeing him walk around the school or even drive around would be enough to make one understand that everything in the school is going well.

Known more by the faculty than the students for how much he has done, his demeanour and attitude to get work done will always be remembered. Now that I think about it, I don't think I have ever seen him without a smile on his face. Be it a Monday morning, a Sunday evening or just a regular weekday, Sir's simplicity was personified, in the best way. It is this very persona and this very smile for which he shall be remembered for years to come.

With only a month to go as he lifts his wing and flies to another nest, it feels almost impossible to imagine the school without him. His leadership has played a key role in shaping our students' overall development and strengthening our school community. As he says goodbye to his role as Vice Principal, he leaves behind a legacy of excellence and dedication that will continue to inspire us. On behalf of the entire school community, we express our deepest gratitude and best wishes for success in all his future endeavours. Farewell, dear Vice Principal sir. May your journey ahead be as bright as the lives you have touched.

**-Best Wishes and Warmest Regards,  
Keshav Bhatia**



# FAREWELL

## Vandana Ma'am

"Guten Tag", the first two words in German that we were fortunate enough to learn from our beloved teacher, Ms. Vandana Sahay. Us entering grade 6-C (now the Art Room), not knowing what was about to unfold would be five years of unforgettable memories, and several eccentric rules of German that we still fail to comprehend, but know how to use due to Vandana Ma'am's style of teaching.

When we reminisce about our German classes, we fail to think of a day where Ma'am wasn't wearing a saree with a matching 'bindi'. The same sarees that were continuously caught up in the nails all around the classroom. Our experience with Ma'am might have been restricted to the classroom, yet that does restrict the number of tales we have to tell. But first, let us talk about the fortunate bunch in Junior School, the Rispana House, previously the unfortunate bunch. A couple of years ago Rispana by unanimous decision was bestowed the title of 'The Strictest House'. However, that all changed as soon as Ma'am got accustomed to the Welham way, and took over the reins of Rispana. Nowadays, Rispanites could be seen waking up to the sound of music, and enjoying McDonalds, Kathi Rolls etc ever so often. However, Ma'am's motherly affection for Welhamites weren't restricted to just Rispana, rather Ma'am could be battling it out with Rathore sir in Bethany, so much so that the students didn't need to raise their hands for food even once.

Rispana, and the Junior School aside, we are the ones writing the article so it is now our chance to recall our escapades with Ma'am. Not being able to recount the mischievous incidents in middle school comes as no surprise due to Covid-19 taking away the better part of two years. Luckily for us, the shenanigans that we got up to in grade 10th will be able to make up for the lost time. Whether it was Kunal unable to join the majority of classes due to his so called 'dentist appointments', or Vedansh's fashion statements with surgical masks (Covid must have hit him hard), or the infamous question Ma'am asked to Siddhsavir "Was ist ein Gymnasium?" To which he gleefully answered "Gym!", post that day all of us have the

meaning of 'Gymnasium' etched within our souls, to the curious few it means 'High School', hopefully.

More than our antics, Ma'am's extreme reactions over the slightest of mishaps are what we remember fondly. Ma'am's versatility with reactions that include the iconic facepalm, the head shake, or the bulging of eyes to give the impression of anger far surpassed her linguistic prowess over eight languages. Her tales of childhood along with the reason for her passion for philately, however, is something that we cannot disclose, but we assure the linkage can be used for the next extravagant Tom Cruise movie ;).

Now is the time that we have been waiting for, the moments that we remember most fondly, the food that we ate and the gallons of coffee we gulped down. From munching on burgers and Kathi Rolls a night before our boards (perhaps the reason we did so well) to a magical jar of Nutella appearing out of thin air after Tanay expressed his interest in having Ma'am try 'Biscuits and Nutella'. But how could we forget the blessed pens that Ma'am gifted us that guided our answers? Or Ma'am's incredible cooking skills?

The instances we recalled isn't even the tip of the iceberg, in fact if we were to write about all our encounters with Ma'am then we would have another Indian mythology for the historians to read. But rather than saying 'Tschüss' as we conclude we would like to say Aufwiedersehen Lehrerin.

**-From the students who were one off from perfection,  
Ashaaz Ansari and Tanay Pratap**

I find it hard not to sound completely dejected while I make this statement, given the fact that ambition and greed are believed to be correlated. They are related but just to an extent. Without the presence of ambition, greed wouldn't be effective. It is just a stronger medium through which someone projects their ambition and how far they are willing to go for it, but ambition is not effective due to greed. It is something which is present in a human, as natural as the urge to forage for food, as primitive as the will to survive.

Probably present since the genesis of mankind itself, ambition manifests itself in different ways and forms. Be it the countless inventions, or the innumerable philosophies that have come into being. However, in some cases, this ambition did become too strong and as a result, had negative effects. These are the cases where ambition becomes greed. These are the cases when mankind had to face atrocities. Wars, genocides, massacres, famines - all can be linked to the germination of greed in one's heart.

In a biblical sense, greed is one of the seven sins which can lead one to purgatory. However, in the modern context, I think greed has itself evolved into something more. Rather than something which pushes someone over the edge, it has become something which pushes one to do better, be better. Greed born out of jealousy, greed out of desire, greed caused by one's circumstances - the motivation that these give someone can not be compared to simply having an ambition.

No one would ever describe ambition as something negative when in comparison to greed. However, I think ambition does have a negative impact, maybe even more than greed. Greed is the desire born out of selfishness while craving for something material in nature, usually money and wealth. It is the desire to get your hands on something which can be attained. Ambition on the other hand, is the single desire to achieve something - no matter how outlandish it seems. What many people ambition towards, might be something beyond their capabilities. When they try and fulfil their ambitions, they fail, causing them to question their potential and their own self rather than the reality of their ambition.

In essence, greed and ambition seem to be the same but when we delve deeper into their mechanism, even into their meanings, we notice differences. This difference is somewhat a balance, a balance that seems unattainable, but exists nonetheless.

-Samarth Agrawal  
XI

Beauty lies in subtlety, but you don't really need to be a poet to tell the differences that the 'Twilight' season brings with it. Spring is finally here, and after writing my last couple of articles in the absence of sensation on the tips of my fingers, I can finally write without thinking I was going to catch a cold the next morning. That's not all though. There is one more reason why the Spring term is universally loved by most of the 'boys in brown' reading this: it marks the dawn of a new metamorphosis in a Welhamite's character, and yes, newfound ambition is an inseparable part of it.

However, come to think of it, ambition is more like a meandering, fast flowing river. It can take you to the breadth and the infinity of the ocean, but it is often too late when you realise that the shores you once wanted to reach have now drifted into oblivion. Yes, stoics will say that in the infinite calculus of the universe, it is something that should not and will not matter, but deep within your conscience you know that it does and that an intangible force somehow kept you from stopping. That force, my friends, is greed. It is hard to tell exactly how ambition permeates into greed, and the tragedy is that one under the influence of greed can never tell the difference. Greed can cloud even the clearest of minds, and because the fine line between being ambitious and being greedy is so easy to step over, it often makes the individual lose control of his actions. It is there that the river current becomes too strong to escape from. So does that mean that one should inherently deject their ambition? Must a man not follow it?

The answer is, wield that power over it. History is witness to the greatness that befell those that held power over their ambition and kept the emotion of greed in them at bay. This is because greed, by nature, cannot persist as a subordinate emotion. If you have the strength to steer your ship, the storm can do nothing. If you do not fear dying, death can do nothing. If you can control ambition, greed fails to follow suit. Hence, the quote should be, "where a man controls his ambition, greatness awaits."

Nevertheless, I wouldn't consider this sermon of mine to be over unless I give my fellow boys in brown some advice for this term. Establish your dominance in the sport you play, mesmerise the audience with your oratory, ace that exam like you never have. Just remember that the one extra point, that one missed phrase or that one mark was destined to be lost. Don't let this stream of ambition carry you into the ocean of regret.

-Shreyas Shah  
XI

Pursuit of excellence. A journey to your heart's desires. These emotions are warmly felt by many Welhamites, in their journey to achieve various goals. On this occasion of the Spring Festival, with Music and Dance instilling ambition, greed is found cluttered in the desire to achieve all. Even though I encourage everyone to strive towards the goal they want to complete, the road there may lead to more temptation. As I sit here writing my Editor's Take, amid my board examinations, the distinction between the two so-called "tools of motivation" has become clearer than ever. For many, ambition is the key to success, with greed being the relentless and selfish desire to gain something. On the other hand, Greed is uncomplicated, which guarantees that people will be better off, looking from a very self-centered perspective. For me, Ambition and Greed are two sides of the same coin.

Where ambition is limitless thoughts, greediness is unlimited wants. In a hierarchical system, which will be familiar to most Welhamites, it is ambitious to win the school's respect, yet greedy to win their praise. Ambitious individuals are like rivers, flowing with purpose and direction, carving new paths as they progress. Greed is like the flood-bearing rivers, which destroy any obstacle in their path, no matter what comes in the way of their destination.

As I have personally experienced, in the academic realm, ambition drives students to excel, pushing boundaries and unlocking their full potential. It fuels their desire to learn, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to the whole school. Ambitious students are not only an inspiration to many, but also help their friends in need, during times of great havoc, or simply during exams. However, when ambition turns into greed, academic environs can become breeding grounds for unhealthy competition. Rather than collaborating and supporting one another, many students view others as obstacles to be overcome, something that was witnessed during this year's board examinations.

Within the thin line separating Ambition and its counterpart, there exists a common path. It entails the intention to be successful, and the intention to do it in a manner better than before. Unlike ambition, greed's motives have a harsher impact on an indi-

vidual's life, proving to be a better force than most. Yet, greed is still considered the easier way out, as it removes the need to face many obstacles and instead throws them on the "ambitious" group.

There is perhaps an underlying side effect for many greedy members of our community. The overall improvement and development are most sought after, benefiting multiple people at the same time, quite like an equitable distribution of success and respect. However, when greed has a role to play, it creates a much-felt gap between people, especially during times like those of the prefectorial elections and earning various accolades. This practice of greed may prove to be divisive, in the sense of snapping friendships. However, all of this raises a very important question Welhamites should ask themselves. If greed really does have its pros, is it really necessary for it to be practised? The answer isn't known that well, but it is easy to understand. Greed may be better for the individual, but not for the school. Ambition is your road to success, and while greed makes it elementary, ambition makes it worthwhile.

-Divij Gupta  
XI

# Intern's Choice

## Reintegration of Sports :

The revival and integration of various dissolved sports such as archery, gymnastics and horse riding back into the student curriculum will not only diversify the selection of sports offered at our school but also ignite craze for new inter-houses and what the sports can offer. Every sport which a Welhamite performs not only leaves a mark on their personality that tends to last an eternity, but also incarnates the emotion of being a Welhamite. This results in competition amongst houses, which in turn ends up being a part of their memory. Memories made at Welham are something remarkable and impeccable that stay a part of one's personality forever. The thorns to roses may be pointy but they are sharp and help the plant defend itself. Similar can be said for memories. In conclusion, the reincarnation of sports that were earlier a sensation well lived, would result in tremendous enjoyment and genuine ecstasy.

## Renovation of the Locker rooms :

The locker rooms of students, though old, have demonstrated reliability along the years. However, now the people of our school demand the locker rooms be broadened at base and the lockers enriched with modernity. The procrastination towards the completion of these amenities will lead to a sense of primitivism within the students. The parallel outcome will be in favour of not just the students at Welham but also the security in the school premises. The rusted school locker with their old designs should be exchanged with newer, more modern sets of furniture. Breaking in lockers is easy, though after this advancement, nothing of such sort would seem to exist.

## A reconstruction time announced for the benefit of students at Welham:

People, especially Welhamites are filled with negative emotions such as anger and discontent. These are usually the cause for rage and wrath towards a person, wrath of the soul which is uncontrollable and hateful. With practices as normal as reading or journaling, these emotions would transform into serenity and humility. These not only help improve linguistic skills but also augment the performance of one's mind. If these activities are followed by a sport, then the body will be able to function well not only on the field, but throughout the schedule. This reconstruction period should involve all necessary forums of development of human beings, even counseling if necessary.



# VER'S'ES

Two Poems. One Heading. You be the Judge and Jury

I see the stars, I want to grab them,  
I see the moon, I desire to take it on my own.  
If everyone reads, who will be the one to write?  
I am the one, I will take the flight.

This, find me a man with overbrimming fame in  
vain,  
This was me, a stumbled heart gone insane.  
The desire I tamed, a sapling missing the root,  
The candle stopped burning, but left a black soot.

Driving force developed into pressure, so hard,  
The emotions I bore were broken as a shard.  
The banyan the groove within from the seed,  
My head was mirrored and my ambition turned into  
greed.

I slept when I was running the miles of aspiration,  
I dreamt the days in hell when I created my own  
superstition.  
I woke up to see myself lost in desire,  
An unguided wolf, wanting to get everything higher  
and higher.

I kept my foot on all the boats,  
I made myself tainted amongst the goats.  
I knew my thoughts breed by breed,  
Sadly the sun was lost and I had already disappeared  
in greed.

-Eshaan Tiwari  
VIII

A tempest roared in the heavens,  
While the darkness claimed the night.  
Both coveting the primaeval Luna,  
An ephemeral, nocturnal respite.

In this jocund rendition of lucid skies,  
Not all was well upon the Earthly womb.  
For a boastful lad carved in gold,  
Few words of praise upon his tomb.

His ambitions were an insufferable pursuit,  
For what man could enjoy worldly pleasures,  
When his barbaric hands bled,  
From violence and conquests and treasures.

Hence this tale meets a tragic turn,  
And let no page of the tale be unturned,  
For how could not his gluttonous ambitions plead,  
To have a mouthful of puerile greed.

And the narrator shall not sing,  
Like a songbird of his praise.  
Let pass before bewildered eyes your ruling days,  
And only when you take your fatal breath,  
Sins shall be adorned on the fragments,  
Of your vacant and lifeless silhouette.

-Koustabh Gupta  
X

# WORD

Stoicism Thv

## For

“ Curb your desire - don't set your heart on so many things and you will get what you need ”  
Epictetus

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The very meaning of ambition is to have a strong desire and determination to do something or achieve something. This in extension means things which might be unrealistic or too difficult to actually achieve in reality. That is the problem with ambition. It makes a man with too little desire for too much, much that can never be in his hands. The simple solution would be to curb his desire as suggested by Epictetus, a stoic himself. However, where does this leave the ambition? It leaves it nowhere, like an empty promise - words that no longer hold any weight.

So yes, stoicism does thwart ambition, though it is not for us to decide whether that is good or bad, positive or negative because stoicism is a philosophy that people adopt and implement on their own due to circumstances or situations. Stoicism in layman terms is a philosophy that teaches people to focus on what is under their control and accept and move on from what they can't. Being an ideology that preaches acceptance, it is bound to conflict with ambition and thwart it. Ambition is born out of a need; it is a desire to get your hands on things material and abstract because you have the desire to get it and the determination to take the journey to it.

Had someone followed a hedonistic ideology, it wouldn't have thwarted their ambition, rather amplified it. A hedonistic ideology follows the belief of seeking pleasure and doing everything you can to avoid pain and experience euphoria. On the other hand, stoicism encourages individuals to follow their goals and achieve them on the basis of virtue as well as good morals, keeping in mind the reality that they live in.

We, as humans, have a tendency to get our hands on everything that we can because it is a way to establish supremacy, to prove that you are better. This might lead to greed or even gluttony, for knowledge, for power or even for authority. This greed becomes a part of ambition, seeping into it; something unnatural mixing with something natural, something dark mixing with something pure. This is the reason why stoicism actually thwarts ambition. When our ambitions become too strong even for ourselves, we resort to unnatural

and immoral ways to complete them. In such a situation, ambition faces a conflict with stoicism and because an ambition can crumble, stoicism triumphs over it.

In a world that was less competitive, perhaps stoicism would not have thwarted ambition because ambition wouldn't take the turns it takes in most cases and lead to something negative. However, that seems like a world too good to be true, which it actually is. In the present context, nobody can imagine a field without any competition where nobody holds ambitions which might be too hard to actually achieve.

As students, there is a lot that we aspire for and hold ambitions towards. This ambition might be different for everybody, however, it might also be the same for some people. In such a case it is important to keep in mind the fairness of the field. Stoicism might seem like too much of a reality-check but it does preach virtue and the value of good morals. Though it might curb your ambition to some extent, perhaps it is required so that we remember what kind of world we live in and not let our ambition get the better of ourselves.

- Samarth Agrawal  
XI

# WAR

thwarts Ambition

## Against

“Close your heart to it. Close your heart to their suffering, and greatness will await you.” -Kratos, God of War IV

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Every human that has ever held a conscience in this world, has had some reason or the other to live for. The reason why you get up every morning, the reason why you do what you want to do. The very reason you are interested in reading these ideas that I want to share. That is because each one of us shares the source of that driving force, that reason. The reason I am talking about here is ambition. It is an emotion that forms a significant part of the core of our existence in this world. It is characterised by hunger, the desire that you feel rising within yourself when you aspire to reach your goals.

So the question is, how exactly does a belief like stoicism influence one's ambition? Well, let's start by understanding what stoicism entails. Fundamentally, it is the belief in the principle that external forces should not influence your attitude towards life. If something cannot be influenced by your actions, then don't let it dictate the direction that your life takes. Stoics have a unique perspective on life that rejects worldly pleasures and disappointments, and to focus on one's purpose in life rather than getting entangled in its illusions and mirages.

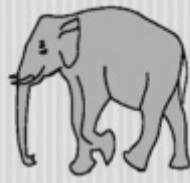
But can it really thwart ambition? The answer lies in how well you understand stoicism as a belief system. If we are to properly understand it, we need to see and realise its applications in real life. For example, one of the most popular incidents of the first stoic, Zeno's life was that of his ships sinking with all of the treasure they carried from their expedition. Zeno's response to the event was one that set the stage for stoic principles in the world and birthed a new perspective on how one can deal with loss. Zeno of Citium was unshaken by the loss and believed that the forces of nature deemed it to happen and there was nothing anyone could do about it. His trade ambitions remained in high spirits and he later recovered the money he had lost. Thus, the argument here holds value by showing us how stoicism does not subdue or thwart ambition, but rather keeps it unabashed if implemented properly in the individual's life.

Also, the core principle to defend our case here is that the very foundation of stoicism entails moving forward in life. It treats life like an ever-flowing river, which cannot and should not be stopped. So, if you open your heart and soul to the suffering and accidents that a man faces in his life, it shakes your self-confidence considerably and makes you doubt your ambition and whether it can be achieved. On the other hand, a stoic will be aware of this illusion of misfortune and will always seek to move forward in life. They have the knowledge to harness their far reaching ambitions and remain focused on the aims that they set for themselves. For them, seeking motivation is a perpetual process, but they reduce the number of problems coming their way by not having to rebuild themselves every time tragedy strikes.

True, one might argue that foresight is what drives ambition, but we must understand that we mustn't make our aspirations superficial. How does foresight make them superficial? Well, it often happens that we form entire narratives of our lives while thinking, and most of the time life is shaped by the variables that we overlook. A stoic will focus on the present, and what they can do now that will make an impact in achieving their goals.

Hence, stoicism does not hold back ambition. It gives it a drive, an invisible protection that makes sure that we ultimately achieve our goals and when we leave this world, we leave as men who came and conquered whichever arena they set foot in.

-Shreyas Shah  
XI



# THE RISING INTELLIGENTSIA

Putin's invasion has changed the world's post-Cold War geopolitical axis, forcing the West to see Russia as a pariah state after decades of friendly ties. The conflict has also limited Putin's universe, since the International Criminal Court issued a warrant for his arrest last year for suspected war crimes committed in Ukraine, requiring more than 100 nations to arrest the Russian leader if he steps foot on their land.

However, the conflict has created new opportunities for Russia, which has attempted to form new relationships while strengthening old ones. Russia's connections with China, North Korea, and Iran, who have not denounced the invasion, have grown stronger, and Putin has moved to woo nations in the Global South while pitching a vision of a world not governed by the West. Putin's detractors accuse him of fabricating foreign policy crises to divert attention away from his government's incapacity to address Russia's many internal issues, which range from low life expectancy to widespread poverty. While Russia withstood Western sanctions better than predicted, the conflict has harmed its economy by diverting resources to military manufacturing. Inflation has skyrocketed, essential items such as eggs have become prohibitively expensive, and tens of thousands of young professionals have fled the nation.

Gauging public sentiment is difficult in authoritarian nations like Russia, where different social groups are closely monitored and many people are afraid to criticize the Kremlin. However, the Levada Center, a non-governmental polling group, finds that almost half of Russians strongly favour the conflict in Ukraine, while more than three-quarters are moderately supportive. Levada also cites Putin's popularity rating at more than 80%, a level almost unknown among Western politicians and a significant rise from the three years before the full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

President Vladimir Putin has extended his hold on the nation he has controlled since the turn of the century, winning Russia's stage-managed election by

an overwhelming majority in a predetermined outcome. Putin received 87.3% of the vote with a record turnout of 77.5%, the Central Election Commission (CEC) stated Monday after all votes from the three-day presidential election were tabulated. As a consequence, Putin will govern at least until 2030, when he will be 77. He will become Russia's longest-serving leader since Soviet tyrant Joseph Stalin, with a third full decade in power. With most opposition candidates killed, imprisoned, banished, or forbidden from standing, and dissent virtually outlawed in Russia since its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Putin faced no viable threat to his authority.

The Kremlin meticulously selected the candidates who may challenge Putin. His closest challenger, Communist Party candidate Nikolay Kharitonov, had received just 4.3% of the votes cast. The outcome was unavoidable – Putin's spokesperson said last year that the vote was “not really democracy” but “costly bureaucracy” – but the ritual of elections is still critical to the Kremlin as a method of reaffirming Putin's power. The ceremony was done every four years until 2008, when the legislation was altered to prolong presidential tenure to six years. Later constitutional modifications eliminated presidential term limitations, possibly enabling Putin to remain in office until 2036.

In a victory lap at his election headquarters late Sunday, Putin said that the election had “consolidated” national unity and that Russia had “many tasks ahead” as it pursued its struggle with the West. “No matter how hard someone tries to scare us or repress our will or awareness, no one has ever been able to do so in history, and it will not happen now or in the future. “Never,” he said.

**-Tanay Pratap  
XII**





# Literary Affairs Of Welham

The consequences of indulging with even a single of the seven deadly sins have led to the downfall of many. Yet, these sins continue to plague our society to this date. These seven affairs with each of the seven sins is an effort to help us realise the disastrous conclusions one's life meets after falling victim to the corrupting influence of 'the seven deadly sins'.

Many years ago, a fool claimed that the 'sin of sloth' is one of the most powerless vices for it is incapable of any catastrophic repercussions. But remember fellow sinners, that the sin of sloth befalls upon humanity not as a calamity but rather as a plague. It corrupts the soul into an empty vessel.

Kingdoms afar, in a close-knitted hamlet lived three friends- filled to the brim with dreams and desires. The fellow companions, a noble pope who sought solace in preaching the lord; a rural youth who yearned for adventures and a gullible author who was a stranger to the seductive enigma of sloth. The entirety of the villagers envied and despised such strong friendship, one unsevered by any dagger. But in a world plagued by sins who could be an exception to the primaeval venom of vices. Inevitably, the enviable trinity were likely to have flaws within their own walls.

As the fabric of the future gradually unravelled, distances emerged in the trinity. The lad's patience had been exhausted since life never manifested as an adventure at his doorsteps. His eager wait turned into a sombre procrastination. In no time had his formidable desperation been turned into indolence. Not even the decreasing bread on his plate made a difference. One fine day his friends forced him out of his bed and dragged him to a horse. They advised him to leave on his long-awaited adventure. This pleasant surprise was brought with loads of anticipation-of the rejuvenation of their old friend. But sadly, their friend had vanished from existence and only his empty body floated in the mortal realms. He was indifferent to pleasures, let alone the horse.

When his friends questioned his delusional philosophy, the lad exclaimed in hostility, "I am only emancipating my soul from the materialistic restraints of the mortal world. True liberty lies in indifference to

worldly pleasures which bear bitter fruits."

The naive author protested but the pope who had long feared such a day sighed. He told his other friend, "There is no hope. Our third friend has fallen victim to the plague of sloth. The vice of laziness disguises itself as liberty from mortality of pleasures but in reality, it is just another sin. The sin of sloth is the absence of passion towards the world. His judgement has been clouded and although he is aware of God's intriguing gifts, he is apathetic towards them."

Few unfortunate days later, the unwilling and lazy friend hanged himself in solitude. The pope who could not bear the grief and misery blamed the death of his friend upon himself. He was unable to guide his friend from sins. Deprived of his faith, he too jumped off a cliff. The word of the trinity reached the villagers' ears. It was another leisurely chatter for the villagers. The immature author who had now come to terms with the true potential of sloth visited their grave.

The pope, lazy in his commitment and the adventurer, void of purpose; both met a tragic fate. But fellow sinner, this is not the end. How could a friend with the blood of ignorance on his hands flourish? The author, swindled by laziness too, walked towards the hellfires as death unveiled its sordid embrace.

Remember fellow sloths, that indolence and hostility are the bliss of the ignorant but the pleasure in the sin of sloth is the demon's disguise.

Fellow sinner, the sin of lust has ended this individual's life. This should serve as a lesson to those who let their desires and urges get ahead of them. If you are unable to relate, maybe one of the four remaining sins will help you realise the wrongs in your ways.

**-The Prince of Sloth,  
Belphegor**

# Department of the Month - IT Department

With the Spring Fest approaching, chaos can be observed in every corner of the school. From students running to choir practices to students running from their dance practices, from students getting ready to don another gown to teachers making sure that all goes smoothly, many important elements of this whole process go unnoticed. One such unnoticed and underappreciated element is definitely the IT department and the group of people behind its success.

Be it Prashant Sir running around to catch his students or Puneet Sir balancing his duties between that of a Housemaster, a photographer, as well as a teacher. Be it Girish Sir agreeing to the demands of every publication the day before printing or Rajan Sir not refusing to help any student with their network issues, the IT department is a crucial pillar that ensures the smooth functioning of the school.

The reason for its liking with the students, however, is not the teachers. It just so happens that this department has one more member, a member whose importance is engraved in the heart of every Welhamite, the IT lab. The lab is synonymous to the department which serves as a haven for more than just the teachers (No more Insta, sadly :( ). Every student who steps foot in this campus does at one point of their Welham journey think of the lab as the solution to all his problems. From sneakily downloading music and movies to openly using social media (much to the dismay of half the department), even this part of Welham has changed.

Regardless to say, the department should be credited with more than just the success of a few events. Regularly updating the school servers and the ERP system, maintaining the school website and the social media handles, and, most importantly, surveilling the devices that make use of the school network (not so easily), the IT department does have a lot on its plate.

The department, of course like the other departments does have its fair share of the unofficial duties that they must complete. Helping students with their

troubled devices, their personal requests for the prints and even allowing them to research (which does evolve into something more) is not a part of their job profile, but something which they nevertheless do indulge in.

Perhaps the most famous (and our favourite) member of the department is OP Sir (not the HOPC). A fun and easy guy to get along with, his efforts to monitor the monitor of every child are appreciated, though a tad less effective. You can find him whenever you step in the lab and no matter how hard he tries, you do step in.

Perfection is just a word and regardless to say, the IT Department is also not perfect. Maintaining and making the innumerable presentations for the many events does seem to be something which lies on the back of their hand, but mistakes do occur (commonly) but it is something which we (and the department) seem to have made their peace with.

This month just marks the beginning of the countless duties that this year will once more bestow upon the department. The Oliphant Board wishes them all the luck to complete (and comply) with all the responsibilities that are given to them.

**-An Appreciative Individual**

# The Lampoon

## The Quadrangle

Look at the quadrangle, a huge area of open space with rocks all over it. This architectural decision makes us wonder where the boundary is between avant-garde and ridiculous. We will examine the complexities of this difficult situation and how it affects students' day-to-day lives in this critique.

Let's start with the rocks' aesthetic value—or lack thereof—for the quadrangle. Some could contend that they give the place a more rustic character, but others wonder if we've discovered an old archaeological site instead of a contemporary school. Concrete structures contrasting with unaltered rocks produce a visually discordant effect that is, at best, confusing.

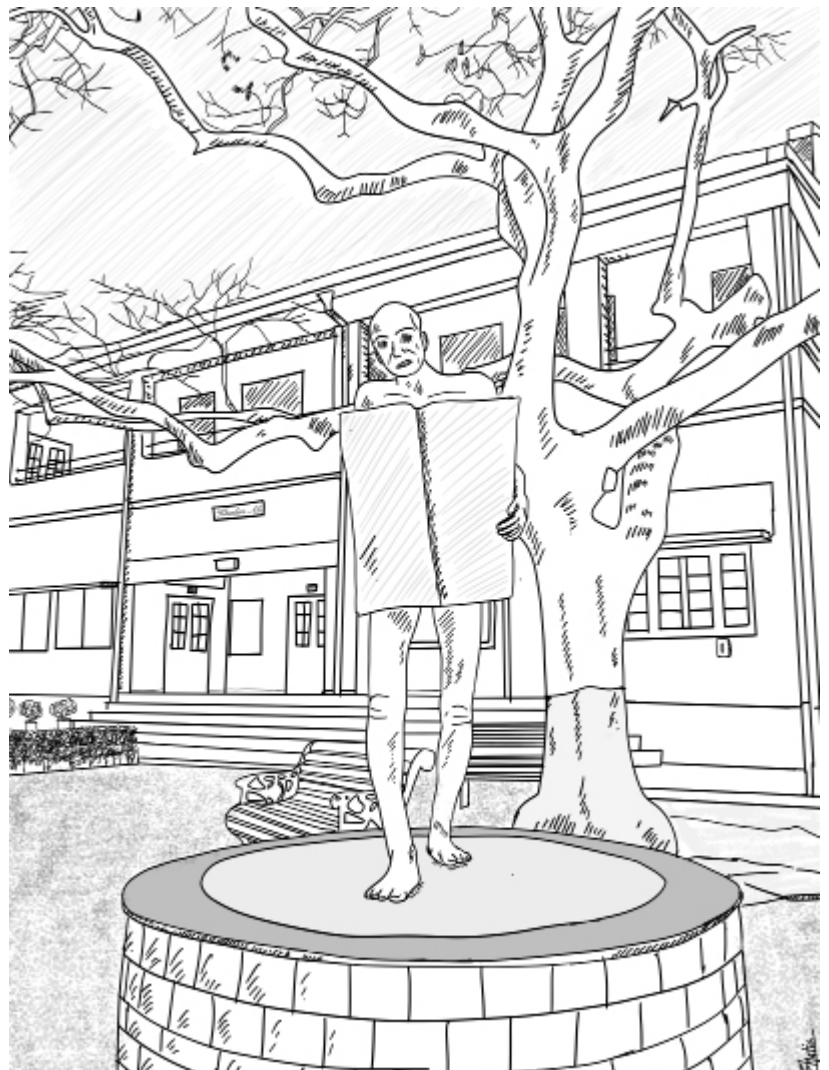
Let's move on to the utility—or lack thereof—of scattering rocks all across the quadrangle. These natural barriers make it difficult to navigate and can make an easy walk into a dangerous hike similar to following a rocky mountain track. Ankle sprains and bunions are more frequent, bringing a little adventure to the everyday trip between courses.

Remember the special difficulties brought on by the uneven ground during the fruit break. The kids are struggling to find some sort of solace on the harsh rocks, and it is amazing how resilient those who dare to enjoy their fruit feast are in the face of such hardship. Mango connoisseurs balance their Tupperware carefully on rocky terrain, whereas grape lovers sidestep the rougher areas like experienced climbers.

And what about the sitting alternatives these geological wonders afford, or don't? Sometimes a flat rock becomes available, and tired students looking for a break from the bustle of the quadrangle's standing room rush to claim it. These naturally occurring seats do provide some difficulties, though, since it takes careful balance to prevent an unintentional fall to the earth below.

In summary, the rocky quadrangle offers a unique experience that puts its residents to the test, even though it may not win any prizes for comfort or practicality. It's a place where friendships are put to the test both literally and symbolically, where the boundaries between nature and civilization become a rocky mosaic of student life, and where resilience is developed. So let's toast to the quadrangle, rocks and all, for serving as a constant reminder that there are sometimes both geological and metaphorical impediments in the way of enlightenment. Let us hope that when this architectural 'masterpiece' is taken down and replaced by something more modern, the essence of the quadrangle still remains.

- A Perceptive Welhamite



# Dude Of the Month: Mr. Santram Nautiyal

Since we haven't had this beloved section featured in this magazine for a while (edi's fault everywhere?), the dude of the month for this edition had to be someone special. But isn't it always? Well, our guess is that the institution is responsible for having the most star studded faculty one can find in the entire country. However, while there was some amount of competition for the post, our house wardens have absolutely dictated this term and have played an almost essential part in the functioning of each house (prefects busy in INTER-schools). Therefore since a house warden is to be selected as the DOTM, with every Jamunaite's blessing (even if in disguise) Mr. Santram Nautiyal has taken the prestigious honour this time, that too by a huge margin, to say the very least.

Nautiyal sir, as he is fondly called, is one teacher who is perceived in three different ways depending on who you are in school. The first is if you are a Jamunaite middle schooler. Sir then, is a beacon of hope for you. A hope to nick that one night share in. A hope to get yourself saved from the pantry affairs. Contrary to this, the second perspective is that of a Jamunaite senior. It is a stark contrast this time as at the crack of dawn, Sir takes the form of Helios himself and shines so bright that a few are forced to fall off their beds, and some stand up like infantry riflemen in an instant (speak no more of violence). As for the rest of the school, Sir is seen as quite the multitasker, managing jobs as a history teacher (an aspect of his personality that is often overlooked), a warden and one of the few teachers in school with a personal mascot, but more on that later.

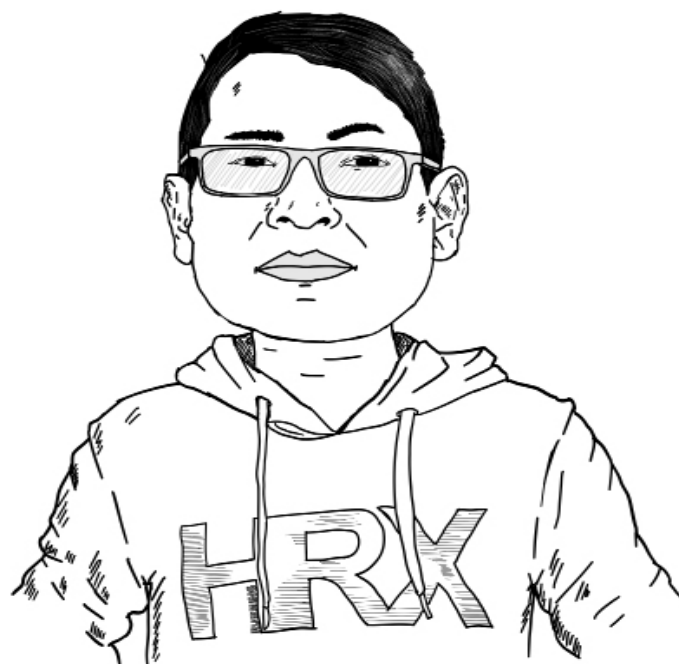
Firstly, Nautiyal sir shines in one particular aspect that sets him apart from any other warden in school. His morning "ventures". Though the fact remains fairly unknown, sir fulfils his duty of waking up students in such a meticulous manner that after a few days one is likely to get up much before sir arrives on his round. From his gentle prods on a drowsy Welhamite, often accompanied by a witty remark or two, to his consistent "AJ sir" threats, he makes a hilarious environment for the so-called victim and the ramped-up observers, never failing to elicit laughter from the onlookers.

On many occasions, a mystery that baffles most students is his disappearance from his room for some period of time, such as the prep, and the after-dinner hour. Before you remember the reason for Sir's absence, you are often forced to think that your pending article was never meant to be completed (since Sir makes sure to keep devices in his possession at night). That is till you see sir walking in through the back door with Milo. Every day, rain or shine, you can spot Nautiyal sir strolling around the campus with his dog, "Milo" trotting by his side. As we mentioned before, Milo has become something of a mascot for Nautiyal sir, with students often stopping to pet him or hear his occasional barks through the doors of Nautiyal sir's house. Milo's interest however, surely lies in the boxes of night shares that slip in and out of Sir's home each evening.

Lastly, the Oliphant board pays its respects to Sir for managing such a (busy) schedule, and also expresses its gratitude for his lack of interest in students lockers (unless you haven't submitted your device, of course).

P.S.-- Sir, if you are reading this, please know that a bunch of students never got over the incident when you prevented them from moving the queen in a chess game;)

**-An Onlooking Humourist**



# To The Senior Who gave me a Favour

I am a very, very busy person. In this school, I have five hundred million things to do: waking up for PT, eating my own food, walking to my classes; trust me, it's worse than your worst nightmare. You can't possibly fathom the pain I have to endure, the hardship I have to go through everyday, not even in your wildest imagination. It gets so hard at times; it gets so hard when I am casually going about my scheduled sleep routine, lying cosily on my comfy, warm bed, when the devil comes for me; when his sinful eyes lay sight at me, and effort they demand; effort I beg to resent.

Sometimes I wonder, how pitiful my gait comes to be about when I beg him to show mercy, beg him to leave me just this once; but quite naturally, I still suffer, for after all he is still the devil; the merciless, oppressive Satan. Please don't mind, for I am a bit emotion driven right now; but you have to understand it isn't really my fault; I have been long oppressed. Expected to walk to a subject room too far. Forced to climb down one too many stairs. And now, the devil comes for me, he commands me, yet again. But this time, I will not bow down. For it is time to raise my voice.

Dear readers, I don't understand this system of favours, not at all. Ok, I understand it when I have to ask a junior to get me my school bag from Bethany because I'm too tired from the extremely busy schedule that coincidentally the junior also has to go through to get it myself but come on, that isn't really a FAVOUR, right? I mean, what diamond did I ask him to get? Just woke that guy up in the middle of his afternoon nap to do a simple task for me. I don't really think it's that big of a deal right? Nah, not really a favour. But asking me to FILL A WATER BOTTLE! What is wrong with you! Do you realise what a SIN that is?

Firstly, I'm exhausted from my very busy schedule, and you can't even let the guy have his packet of chips in peace. Secondly, I was about to go for sports ok; after I was done with eating the five more packets I just got off my juniors and completed my scheduled one-hour afternoon nap. I mean, is there

a limit to your shamelessness? Leave all that aside. You, my dear senior, expect from me, Mr. very, very busy person, TO CLIMB DOWN TWO FLIGHTS OF STAIRS, make my way to the water tap, fill your water bottle, and then CARRY IT ALL THE WAY BACK? DO I SEEM LIKE A JOKE TO YOU?

I don't understand what is up with these fellows nowadays. Like ok, I would have understood if it was as simple a task as mine; but come on, you seriously can't expect me to fill your bottle for you. I have my own extremely essential tasks to perform, so I am very, very sorry, but I can't do this hell of a task for you. I hope my words have made you realise your mistake, and you won't ever expect this much of me again. I am waiting for an apology letter from you. You have my forgiveness only this time, ok, next time I won't tolerate any of this. I am confident you stand informed.

**-Yours dearly,  
A student patiently waiting for your heartfelt  
apology**

# HUMOUR

## *Separated at Birth*

Ashaaz Ansari	Scholar's Tie
Prince Mohd. Arslan	Shrey Sai Vats
Jaap Sardana	Beach Vacations (DR Failed)
School Captain	Halwai
Kshitiz	Sarpanch
School Publications	Delays

## *Through the keyhole*

- Monica Ma'am: My boys are going to Paint The Town Red. (too much social service?)
- Ranveer Chaudhary: There are two Hyderabads?
- Harshil Bhatia: LBW is leg by wicket. (second sport still?)
- Nirmal Agarwal: I have read a lot of Jerry-nimo Stilton in my childhood. (wrong mouse, right name.)
- Ashaaz Ansari: Health 101 - The English Department is not meant to be taken lightly. (Really, edi.. REALLY??)
- Samarth Agrawal: During the 'cramps' time... (The toll of science was too great)

## What's In

## What's Out

Billu Captain	Virvijai Singh Aswal
HM4L	SYSTUMMM
CBS	KBS
Welham Standard Time (WST)	Indian Standard Time (IST)
Overrated Taran	Underrated Taran
DeadSoc	DebSoc

## Rumour Has It

- Nehru was ready to have an emergency fire exit drill post self-out.
- Ekaksh Garg almost took up Computer Science. (LOVE for the subject, of course)
- Grade 11 got hands-on early access experience of GTA 6 while returning from Brahmatal.
- Alpha-Q has found its refugee. (straight from the bird's nest)
- The residents of GP-01 are still learning the ropes.
- Shreyas Shah and Arnav Aaditya seem to have new competition. (The Captains are here!!!)

# Section

## *Ever Wonder Why???*

- Fighters' pre show showed Jaap's true colours.
- Monica Ma'am liked Manali more than the students. ("Royal" treatment??)
- Nobody wants to offer Atharva Agarwal of Grade 11 a mango anymore. (Too a-peel-ing??)
- Krishna 12th reaches the academic block ten minutes early. (Fear of the new HM?)
- Abdullah's 'shooting' skills came in handy during mid-terms. (Umakant sir would know)
- Minarth Jalan did not enjoy Holi. (Hsp\_j?)

## Moments Of The Month

- Srikanth Sir vs Tanay Pratap spider walk race during morning PT.
- Harleen Ma'am, Krishnam Chawla, and the infamous green tea. (Those who know shall know)
- Bombardment of snowballs at Gyan sir during Midterms.
- Kandpal Sir's Farewell.
- The editing of the Oliphant. (WST at its finest)

# Snap Of The Month



## Editorial Board

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