



“Little girls with big ideas are much scarier than monsters.”

Editorial

This term turned out to be a strong gale of challenges while all we were expecting was a mild ‘wind of change’. As we conclude this term, it is with a smile of fulfillment that we look back at the two phases of the 60th Founders’ Day Celebrations, along with the three sets of exams, a whirlwind of successes, failures and memories – both good and bad. While the good ones have been pleasant as always, some unpleasant memories, tears and challenges have also played their part in the course of these five months.

In this edition of the News and Views, we bring to you a mix of perspective and fiction built on absolute reality. The current restlessness around us, along with the emergence of many anti-establishment forces around the world has been addressed in this issue with scope for an unbiased opinion of the readers.

The disturbing issues around us include conflicting opinions regarding the degenerating Middle East situation, a verbal battle between North Korea and the United States, natural disasters and the perpetually raging battles within us. All these struggles have in common the nature of the threat they pose to the respective communities and this has been addressed in this issue. The NV board urges all their readers to be armed with a viewpoint which is imperative in this bubbling cauldron of dynamism, changes and revolutions.

As the year comes to a close, it is once again time for reflection, introspection and making new resolutions to ensure peaceful times ahead. At the end, we send our best wishes to all the readers for a happy and restful holiday with all the cheer of Christmas and New Year.

Happy Reading!
Signing off,
Tamanna Dahiya.



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Criminals in Love



The idea of two criminals in love is extremely romantic, especially when the lovers are on the run. However, we tend to romanticize these couples to such an extent that when they are caught by the authorities, we pity them. Such couples exist in both, the real as well as the fictional world. Some examples are the famous Bonnie and Clyde and Harley Quinn and the Joker.

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow are considered to be one of the most dynamic and romantic criminal duo in history. As leaders of the Barrow gang, they killed fourteen people and executed robberies across five states in the US, all within two years.

As a parallel, the Joker and Harley Quinn of the DC Comics are of course, famous for their creative ways of committing crimes as well as for their exciting romance. It is widely believed that the relationship between the two is based on that of Bonnie and Clyde. Bonnie Parker, just like the fictional psychiatrist Dr. Harleen Quinzel, was not a

criminal to begin with and only adopted Clyde's criminal ways after succumbing to his charm.

The point of difference in each relationship however, arises with the prevalent gender equation. Where Harley Quinn is highly submissive to the Joker, Bonnie and Clyde were considered equals.

In the end, however, it's up to our imagination to decipher the kind of love these couples represent. Although in popular belief they represent true love, one must indeed not be influenced by dystopian ideas to consider psychopathic love as the truest in the world.

-Sulagna Tripathi
Class 10

The Other Me

Schizophrenia is characterised by thoughts or experiences that seem out of touch with reality, disorganised speech or behaviour and decreased participation in daily activities. Difficulty with concentration and memory may also be present. Symptoms may include a belief that one's thoughts are not one's own.

They say I am sick. They don't believe she exists. I know she does. She is a part of me. People say opposites attract maybe that's why we have been inseparable for as long as I can remember. She has always been the braver one of the two of us, the one who always says the right words at the right time, the extrovert. While I roll up and cry at every rude remark, she stands strong using the offenders' insecurities as a shield. While I design all the dresses, she wears them out. I am the designer, she is the model. I am the artist, she is the painting. Maybe we are two people in the same body.

It looks like she has made new friends. They took us away from home and put us in an odd place. They come around too often for my liking. They're all the same. They wear long white coats and even bigger smiles, a mere façade hiding their true intentions. They treat me like I am contaminated, always wearing gloves when they are near me, telling me to eat colorful tablets with no taste, and they don't want us to be friends. They keep pushing her away from me. Lately we have been more distant than ever. It's almost like she is fading.

But still she is not gone. Every time I look at the mirror I see her staring back at me. The straitjacket has become our permanent fashion statement.



-Saumya Chowdhary
Eshanya Aggrawal
Class 9

Clash of Clans

Saad Hariri, the Prime Minister of Lebanon, announced his resignation from Saudi Arabia on 4 November, 2017. His ostensible meeting with the Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman resulted in another Shia-Sunni stand-off concerning the Iran-backed Shia militant group *Hezbollah* and the Sunni dominated Saudi Arabia. *Hezbollah* started playing an active part in Lebanese politics after much of guerilla warfare, and successfully participated in the national elections in 1992. Currently, Hezbollah holds eleven out of the 128 seats in the Parliament of Lebanon. The very precarious co-existence of the Shia-Sunni ideology in the Middle-East has left no stones unturned to produce destruction of unprecedented magnitude. Hariri's visit to Saudi Arabia is yet another Saudi tactic to assume dominance in West Asia. Moreover, Saad Hariri had an underlying financial motive—the Saudis have significant leverage over his family's construction firm, Saudi Oger. Hariri blamed *Hezbollah* for threatening him as they had threatened his father, the former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri who was assassinated in 2005, allegedly in a covert *Hezbollah* operation.



Complexities resurface when we consider the battle unfolding between Saudi Arabia and Iran. This battle has been played out in Syria, Yemen and Qatar in the form of economic sanctions on Qatar since June 2017, so much so that Yemen has been convulsed by an economic and humanitarian crises. Riyadh has stopped all aid from reaching famine-hit areas of Yemen in wake of an impending cholera endemic. This combat zone is yet another power-play by the impetuous crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman to consolidate authority. The crown prince's regime has also been pursuing internal enemies through 'five-star' purges, with the purged billionaires being kept as hostages at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, though his influence is not confined to domestic affairs alone.

The situation was further aggravated by the entry of the United States of America. Brokering billion dollar defense deals with Saudi Arabia and supporting Sunni militancy in the Middle-East, this meddlesome nation perhaps will not halt before obliterating the Shia-majority Iran from the world map. Iran, on the other hand is supported by the Cold War foe, Russia that is also playing an important role in the six year old Syrian civil war. Although Hariri has withdrawn his resignation, this clash would not require more than one misadventure to wreak havoc on an unparalleled scale involving the world powers of both East and West.

-Aalekh Dhaliwal
Class 11

Ridhima: I'm very good at backstrokes but I can't move in water.

Welham's very own Michael Phelps.

Maanya: (To the PreSCs going to Lucknow) Oh my God! You guys get to see the Gateway of India! (Silence) Oh sorry, that's in Kashmir.

Let us show you the gateway to a GK class.

Stuti: (drops her medicine).

Everyone: Pick it up quickly ! Five-second rule!

Stuti (hysterical as usual): No! For medicines it is three seconds only!

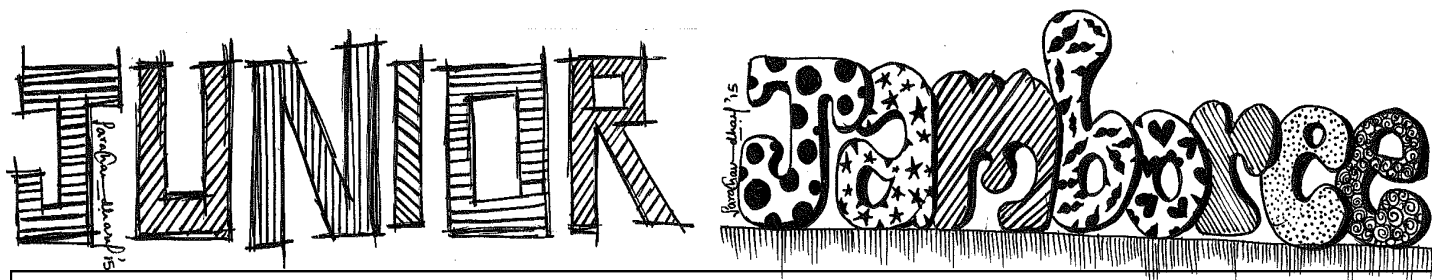
Nitya: The sombrero came into Mexico when the Italians invaded it.

*Now we know why you didn't take up History. *Mrs. Swati Singh thanks her stars**

Tanisha: Madhul, we have to look for some birdbrains.

Found one!





Caught Up in a Storm

In recent days, Cyclone Okhi hit the Southern Coast of India. This is a fictional account of one of the hundreds of children whose lives were uprooted by the cyclone.

The day started as any other day with mom struggling to wake me up and an argument regarding my reluctance to drink milk ensuing between us. Just as I was about to leave for school my mother quickly handed me an umbrella and despite my arguments insisted that I carry it with me. I complied.

A sense of uneasiness pervaded School that day. All the teachers wore worried expressions and seemed apprehensive. However, it did not seem to bother the students much and we carried on with our daily activities. Halfway through recess, a bitter wind had started to rage, strong enough to knock us off our feet. Confusion and commotion broke out and the only thing I could understand was that we were being told to get away from the school building as soon as possible. The first thought that came to my mind was that of my mother. Adrenaline pumped through my veins as I ran towards my home as the buildings around me collapsed. The umbrella that my mother had handed me that morning shielded me from the shower s of gravel and stone. My mother's face flashed in my mind as I dodged chunks of brick and cement. The sight that confronted me on reaching home left me stupefied- all that was left was rubble and shattered pieces of glass... and a hand projecting out from under the pile of debris. My knees gave way as the world around and within me collapsed.

-Hiyaa Atreya
Anoushka Khetawat
Class 8

Turtles All The Way Down-Book Review

Narrated by Aza Holmes, a sixteen year old Indianapolis teen, **Turtles all the Way Down** by **John Green** is about the mysterious disappearance of a fugitive billionaire Russell Pickett. Aza, along with her quirky best friend Daisy, decide to search for the missing billionaire, considering the \$100,000 reward. Aza suffers from serious Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and often gets lost in the never-ending spiral of her own thoughts. Along the journey Aza discovers that the most beautiful bond in life is that of friendship. The book teaches us the importance is of friendship. You may have all the things in life but in the end, friends are the people who are by your side through thick and thin. I suggest the book to everybody- irrespective of whether they are John Green fans or not. It's probably a new age classic and should be on the top of your reading list.



- Yatika Singh
Class 6

INTER-HOUSE PERCEIVING DRAMA patterns



BHAAG
Welhamite
BHAAG!

SPORTS DAY

- Aishita Tekriwal Class 6



Merry Christmas

The following article is based on the Chemist's War which was the outcome of an operation run by the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) to ban liquor in the United States during the Prohibition Era but after failing to do so, the government took to mixing poison in the liquor manufactured which led to the death of over 15,000 people on Christmas Eve.

For the twelfth time that day he asked me where daddy was. I turned away and somehow holding the tears back repeated the same blatant lie that I had been since last evening.

"Daddy's gone to get your big present."

But even as I said it, I sensed the hollowness in my own voice because the truth was that daddy was not coming back. I stared at the untouched food, the burnt out candles and the empty chairs around the dining table. It was supposed to be a massive feast full of toasts and promises and yet here I was, all alone. The awaited celebrations had turned into mayhem. They had warned us, we knew it was coming, and yet it seemed like such an unfathomable expectation, so far away from reality that we convinced ourselves not to believe it. But we were wrong and this naïve decision had shattered our world into a thousand fragments. They had called themselves the leaders of our nation only to mix venom into the noxious substance that had been our companion in ecstasy and melancholy— alcohol. I felt sorrow roll down my cheeks as I thought about his last few moments with us. He had barely screwed open the cork to refill his glass when he sat down. White froth filled his mouth. Cold sweat trickled down his forehead. He screamed saying Santa was choking him. I remember standing there perplexed as my husband succumbed to poison in front of my eyes. The men from the neighborhood streamed in. They said he wasn't the first and that the hospitals were overflowing with men just like him but as they carried him away I knew he was not going to walk in through that door again.

What had been an intoxicating joy was now a burden that would never leave us. What had made a spinning world seem like utopia now left us in burning hell. I sat on the same chair that had felt my husband's torment a few hours ago. In one night my entire life had turned. I stared at my only child as he fiddled with the turtle doves hanging from the decorated tree. A shiver ran down my spine and for the first time, all winter, I felt cold.

-Taarika Mann

Hansika Nath

Class 9

Roses



A bouquet of freshly hand-picked roses to all the parents and guests visiting school. We welcome you all!



Gardens full of beautiful, vibrant roses to the SCs for dazzling the school with their stunning sarees.



A single fresh and dewy white rose to Mrs. Sambasivam for taking the SCs for a movie. Thank you ma'am!



Bathtubs full of exotic blue and yellow roses to the Welhamites for surviving a 5-month term with more tests than studies, multiple Founders' Days and never-ending competitions. Kudos!



Plates full of fragrant roses to PreSCs for organizing a splendid farewell despite... well, everything.

Raspberries



Cartons full of foul smelling, fungus-infested raspberries to the school authorities for an extremely hectic calendar.



Truckloads full of rotten raspberries to the senior houses for making the Annual Magazine pictures no picnic.



Swimming pools full of maggot infested raspberries to Mrs. Neera Kapoor for completely ditching the NV board.



Baskets and baskets filled with squishy, decaying raspberries to the Hoopoe PreSCs for starving the rest of the batch of gossip despite going all the way to Chandbagh.



Hospitals full of gooey moth-eaten raspberries to the Winter Gods for making it extremely hard on the athletes practising for the Sports' Day.



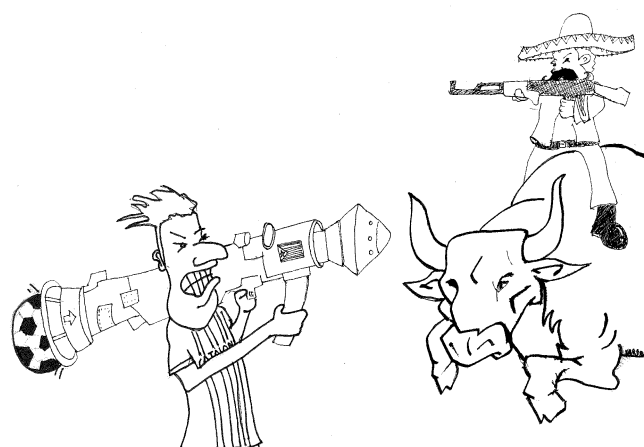
The Catalanian Crisis

Catalonia has consistently been one of Spain's most thriving regions. It account for 16% of the country's population, 19% of its GDP, 25.6% of Spain's exports and 20.7% of foreign exchange. Barcelona provides for a majority of Spanish tourism and Tarragona is one of Europe's biggest chemical hubs. Looking at these facts and figures, why should Catalans be subject to Spanish jurisdiction? Catalans, too, believe that they have a moral, economic and political right to self-determination. This clamor for independence was aggravated during General Franco's dictatorial regime (1939-1975) which saw extensive suppression of Catalan nationalism.

Under the 1978 Catalan statute of autonomy, Catalonia possesses a personal regional flag and parliament. A long-standing campaigner for Catalonia's independence, Carles Puigdemont has been the regional leader since January, 2016. Catalonia has its own police force, personal foreign direct investment and public services like healthcare and education. But we see the tables turn in matters concerning regional and national debt, and what Catalonia would reluctantly commit to if it were successful in gaining independence.

Firstly, Catalonia's public debt to the Spanish government exceeds \$50 billion. Secondly, taking into consideration the reaction of European countries to the 1st October, 2017 Independence Referendum, an independent Catalonia will not get an easy entry into the EU since Spain and its allies could block its entry.

The 1st October referendum saw 43% voter turn-out with an independence endorsing vote. Following days of clashes between Catalan and Basque nationalists, the Central government was forced to invoke Article 155 of the Constitution, to impose direct rule on Catalonia, after Carles Puigdemont declared independence on 27th October, 2017. Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has called for snap elections on 21st December and barely a week after the announcement, Puigdemont left Catalonia and fled to Brussels with four of his Cabinet Ministers. An international arrest warrant has been issued against Puigdemont and his accomplices, but extraditing him from Belgium could take many months, if not years. The future of Catalonia, and Spain, lies in the 21st December elections but it is highly unlikely that Catalonia will be granted independence. Spain's worst political crisis, since its return to democracy four decades ago, has not neared its end and the onus falls on the Spanish government to uphold peace despite the nationalistic uproar in Catalonia.



WHAT'S IN WHAT'S OUT

🚗 Sports Day	☠ Fete
🚗 Perceiving Patterns	☠ Breaking barriers
🚗 Tambourine	☠ Piano
🚗 Momos	☠ Other social service
🚗 Raspberry Pi	☠ Mobile App Designing
🚗 Catalonians	☠ Spaniards
🚗 TV on weekdays	☠ TV on weekends
🚗 Midday March-past	☠ Morning March-past
🚗 Tests	☠ Classes
🚗 SCs	☠ SCs (oops!)

CRANK IT UP!!

Welham's very own "Billboard"

10. Friends– Justin Bieber and Bloodborne
9. Reggaeton Lento- CNCO feat. Little Mix
8. Ready For It– Taylor Swift
7. Lonely Together– Avicii feat. Rita Ora
6. A Different Way– DJ Snake, Lauv
5. Personal– The Vamps and Maggie Lindemann
4. Wolves -Selena Gomez and Marshmello
3. Icon– Jaden Smith
2. Bedroom Floor– Liam Payne
1. Perplexing Pegasus– Rae Sremmurd

THE BULLETIN

- ♦ Welham Girls' School and Welham Boys' School co-hosted the IPSC Music Festival *Ninaad* from 26 to 28 Oct, 2017. Fifteen schools from across the country participated in the festival. Welham Girls' School stood first in the Vocal Duet, second in the Western Duet and third in the Indian Classical Orchestra and Tabla Duet.
- ♦ 36 History students of Classes 11 and 12 attended a talk on 1947-48 Indo-Pak war by an eminent military historian Mr. Shiv Kunal Verma at the RIMC on 31 Oct, 2017.
- ♦ Twelve girls along with Mrs. Vanshree Scott visited the European Council for Nuclear Research, in Switzerland from 22 to 29 Oct, 2017. The girls attended lectures by renowned physicists and also explored Geneva and visited the UN.
- ♦ Four students participated in The Doon School Chess Tournament on 3 Nov, 2017. Ridhima Ahluwalia was awarded the Board Prize for winning all her matches.
- ♦ Eight students participated in the La Martiniere College Model United Nations at Lucknow on 6 Nov, 2017. Aalekh Dhaliwal was adjudged the Best Delegate in her committee.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School participated in Joie de Vivre (Joy of Living), a cultural festival hosted by Chickar International School, Bareilly on 3 & 4 Nov, 2017 that included 'Creating an Advertisements and Enacting them on FM Radio' (where they stood first), 'Group Singing Competition' (they stood first), 'Vocal Singing (Solo)' (Nandini Goyal stood third) and the *Street Play* (our students were given a special mention by the judges). The students were awarded the Overall First Runners Up Position in the competition.
- ♦ Four students of Class 12 participated in the DBS Quiz 2017 organized by Doon Business School, Dehradun on 10 Nov, 2017. Welham Girls bagged the Runners Up position receiving a cash prize of Rs. 12,500.
- ♦ The students of Class 11 had an interactive session with Ms Rajni Sekhri Sibal, an alumna of Welham Girls' School on 17 Nov, 2017. She spoke to the students about the Administrative Service as a career option.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School won the Under-14 IPSC Basketball Championship held in Vikas Vidyalaya, Raanchi beating Genesis Global School in the finals.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School won the DDCSA Jr. and the DDCSA Sr. Girls' Basketball Tournament held in Welham Girls' School and the Aryan School respectively.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School won the BIPA Basketball League in the Under-14 and the Under-17 categories.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School won the Doon School Invitational Badminton Tournament in the Under-14, the Under-17 and the Under-19 categories.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School won 10 Gold, 7 Silver and 7 Bronze medals in the 2nd Uttarakhand Cup and 14th Senior Karate States.
- ♦ Welham Girls' School participated in the North Zone Shooting Championship where five girls qualified for the Nationals.
- ♦ Six girls participated in the Vishakhapatnam Athletics Nationals where Anahat Grehwal and Shreya Bahukhandi qualified for the Nationals.





These questions have been chosen from amongst the others that were dropped into a box which was placed at the Ghanta Ghar.

Q: Am I growing fat everyday due to the constant expansion of the universe according to the theory given by the Hubble telescope guy?

A: Dear Welhamite-turned-Galileo,

First of all, breathe. That is too much science for my liking. Please do not refer to Mr. Edwin Hubble as the 'Hubble telescope guy' to suit your petty issues and do address him with the respect he deserves.

Darling, if the world focused on the issues that you do, there would have been no fans for the fear of hair flying away. Also, trust me that the constant increase of your weight is more due to the constant expansion of your appetite rather than that of the universe.

However, I do recommend you to explore and push the horizons of your research so that the students of the future might refer to you as the 'Ever-expanding, ever-starved Welhamite'.

Also, if you ask me such questions, the Delphic might take offence.

Q: What is the point of Inter-House Dramatics when there is so much intra-house drama in school already?

A: Dear future Arnav Goswami,

I expect to see you in a soap opera some day and given your whistleblowing nature, in the jail a few years hence.

First of all, stop ruining the façade of a peaceful state of affairs in the world of Welham for all those innocent outsiders and do keep your 'intra-house controversies' to yourselves and within the four walls of your house.

*As for the need of Inter-House Dramatics, after a five-month term, Welhamites do deserve a medium to express their inner emotions. As you know, we believe in channeling our feelings in a positive way and thus we present the **Annual Inter-House Dramatics Competition, 2017** in order to share some bit of our drama-filled lives with our parents.*

I extend a warm welcome to all guests present on campus and hope that they enjoy the show and pay no heed to our angst-ridden young girls.

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